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Vernon Davis, 49er and artist, is one of our 2010 Local Heroes

A Celebration of Local Heroes

BEST OF THE BAY

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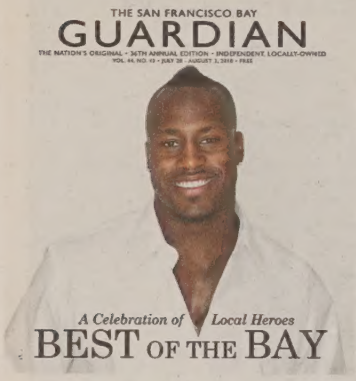

On the cover: Check newsstands for our four unique Local Heroes covers. Their stories, and more Local Heroes inside

SUPERSTARS

By Marke B.
marke@sfbg.com

Welcome to the San Francisco Bay Guardian's Best of the Bay 2010! This is our 36th annual celebration of the people, places, and things that make living here such a ridiculous joy — from Best Burrito and Best Amateur Sports Team to Best Strip Club and beyond.

Thousands of our readers voted in our 2010 Best of the Bay Readers Poll for their favorites in more than 200 categories. You'll find the results inside — as well as 150 Editors Picks that highlight some Guardian favorites, old and new, that we think deserve special recognition for lighting up our lives this year. We've also included many enthusiastic quotes from our readers who responded to the question, "Best of the Best: What's your favorite thing about living here?"

This year our theme is "A Celebration of Local Heroes." We've chosen eight individuals who we feel embody the current spirit of the Bay Area and its unique values. We hope you'll be as inspired by their stories as we are. But really, our readers and everyone who contributes to making the Bay Area a better place to live are our local heroes. So throw on that magic cape, hop on your pedal-powered Batmobile, and let's do it!

In 1974, Esquire magazine asked us for ideas for its Best of the USA issue, which led to us publish the original Best of the Bay. Made by the people of the Bay Area for the people of the Bay Area, it's our annual opportunity to celebrate the people and places that make this city great. We were the first weekly paper to publish a regular "best of" issue. Thirty-six years on — and 44 years after we opened our doors — we're still going strong.

Editing this year's installment was a hoot. I shower grateful smooches on all my collaborators, especially my right-hand amiga Caitlin Donohue, creative wiz Mirissa Neff, amazing Local Heroes photographers Keeney + Law, the totally rad Blue Sky Studios, photographer Ben Hopfer, and the ever-supportive Hunky Beau, my own personal Best of the Bay.

But most of all I thank you, dear reader, for your generous participation, for making the Bay Area such an astounding place to live, and for turning us on to some great new things this year. SFBG

BEST OF THE BAY STAFF

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ASSISTANT ART DIRECTOR
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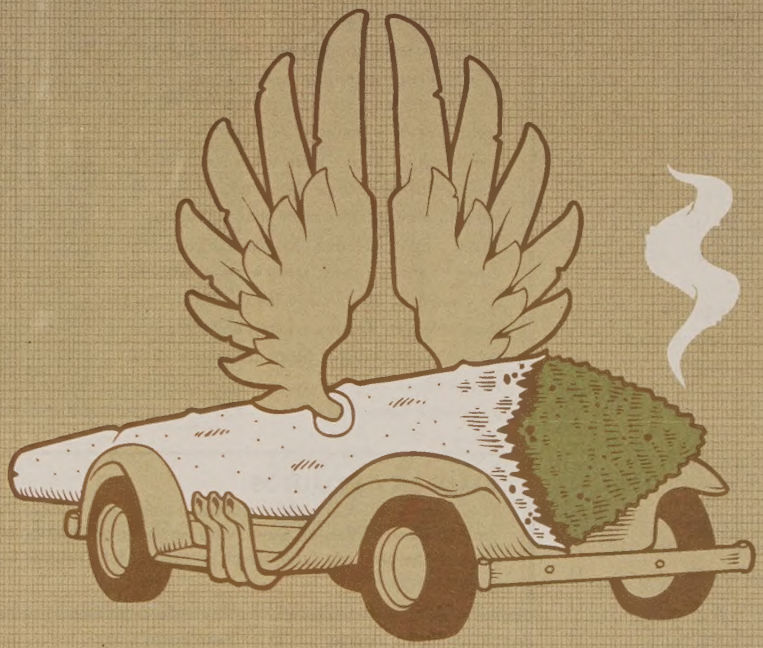
BEST OF THE BAY PHOTOGRAPHER
Ben Hopfer

COPY EDITORS
Caitlin Donohue, Diane Sussman

CELEBRATE WITH US

The Guardian's free annual Best of the Bay party is legendary — and you won't want to miss this one. Schmooze with all the winners at Mezzanine! Rock out with Chuck Prophet, Stephanie Finch and the Company Men, and The Bitter Honeys. Thrill to the hip-hop improv of The Freeze! DJ Ome, Polite in Public photobooth, Burgermeister truck, and more!

Thursday, Aug. 5, 9 p.m., free
Mezzanine, 444 Jessie, SF.
www.sfbg.com/bestofthebay2010



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Only patients with legally recognized medical cannabis ID cards may obtain cannabis from medical cannabis dispensaries.

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ABOUT THE PHOTOGRAPHY

KEENEY + LAW

Michael Keeney and Jasmine Law met at the Brooks Institute of Photography. It didn't take long for them to realize that their approaches complemented one another. Together they are Keeney + Law, a team that successfully balances being both professional and life partners. In photography, their shared vision is based around the idea of a vignette, where every photo is a short story with an emphasis on good light. Always striving to connect with their subjects, Keeney + Law's collaborative process was a perfect fit for this year's Local Heroes portrait project.

www.keeneyandlaw.com

BLUE SKY STUDIOS

The Guardian's Local Heroes portraits were shot at Blue Sky Studios in San Francisco (with the exception of Vernon Davis, who was shot on location by Peter Bohler). We used Blue Sky's state-of-the-art Light Grid, which is the first fully robotic lighting mechanism of its kind.

www.blueskysf.com

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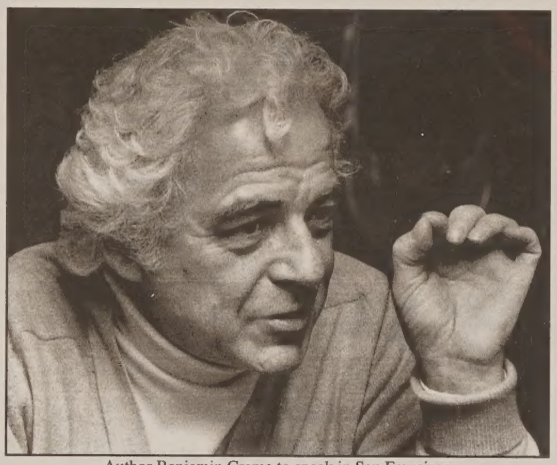


Author Benjamin Creme to speak in San Francisco

The World Teacher's emergence and the role of UFOs

Many people sense that we are living in an unprecedented time. Political and economic systems are in chaos. The rich get richer while the poor become poorer. The planet we call home is in grave danger, yet nations are motivated by self-interest and corporate greed. We seem unable to take the most urgently needed steps to save the Earth. Without help, humanity has little time to rectify the problems — ecological, political and economic.

For more than 30 years, Benjamin Creme has been telling the world about the most hopeful message of our time — that at this critical crossroads in human history, a group of enlightened teachers — Maitreya, the World Teacher, and his group, the Masters of Wisdom — are emerging from their remote retreats to inspire humanity to live together in unity and cooperation.

Creme is internationally known for his grasp of the world's complex problems — interrelating economic, political, social and spiritual issues. His unique insights provide an all-encompassing view of global affairs, inspiring a sense of hope in the millions around the world who have heard his information.

We are approaching a climactic time when all humanity will know beyond doubt that the story he has been telling the world is indeed true. Maitreya, the World Teacher, has now begun his open mission, appearing on an American television network since January 2010 — introduced as an ordinary man, not as Maitreya — talking about his concerns and the need for sharing, justice and peace. Millions have watched him speak and were deeply affected, wondering who this man really is, according to Benjamin Creme.

Heralding Maitreya's open mission, brilliant "star-like luminaries" (UFOs) have appeared in the sky for all to see.

Creme "... a wonderful speaker," journalist says

British journalist Mick Brown describes his experience at Creme's lecture: "… He was a wonderful speaker, addressing the audience in a relaxed, affable Scottish lilt, peppering his monologue with jokes and the occasional self-deprecating aside. He spoke of all this … as if it was the most natural thing in the world; extraordinary, certainly; of the utmost importance, no doubt. But implausible? Ludicrous? Fanciful and farfetched? Not in the least."

'Surrounded by light'

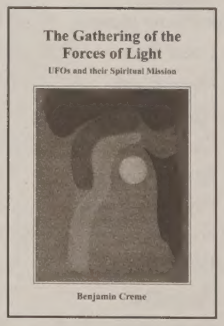
In her book, *Searching for Maitreya*, journalist Patricia Pitchon describes Creme's lecture: "[During the blessing from Maitreya] I saw Mr. Creme surrounded by a beautiful light, which created an outline not only of his body but also the bodies of the first two or three front rows of the audience. His face seemed to disappear, and … I found myself staring at a magnificent and entirely different visage: a man with high cheekbones, golden-brown skin, a medium-sized, well-shaped nose and mouth, and immense, dark eyes. As this visage entered my direct line of vision, I felt a powerful stream of energy pouring from it and entering my heart. I actually felt as if someone had lit a torch to the entire region of my chest…

"This energy had an unmistakable quality: it was the purest love. I was struck by the purity and power of the being who looked straight at me, and from whom, inexplicably, emanated this extraordinary current of love... At the end of this blessing, the light disappeared around Benjamin Creme; everything was back to normal."

Benjamin Creme's latest book describes spiritual mission of UFOs

The Gathering of the Forces of Light: UFOs and their Spiritual Mission is a book about UFOs, but with a difference. It is written by someone who has worked with them and knows about them from the inside.

Benjamin Creme sees the presence of UFOs as of immense value for the people of Earth. According to Creme, the UFOs and the people in them are engaged on a spiritual mission to ease humanity's lot and to save this planet from further and faster destruction. Our own planetary Hierarchy, led by Maitreya, the World Teacher, now living among us, works tirelessly with their Space Brothers in a fraternal enterprise to restore sanity to this Earth. Our Space Brothers are responsible not only for crop circles, but also for preparing the way on Earth for a new technology of light that will give us unlimited power from the sun. When we



banish war forever and are endeavoring to live in right relationship, that technology will be ours.

For the Spiritual Hierarchy of both our own and the sister planets of our system, right human relationship involves the end of competition and the beginning of an era of cooperation with sharing, justice and freedom as its hallmarks.

***The Gathering of the Forces of Light: UFOs and their Spiritual Mission** is published by Share International Foundation. The book is available at the lecture, and online at www.amazon.com.*

A Talk by Benjamin Creme

Sunday, August 8th, 2 p.m.

Palace of Fine Arts Theatre

3301 Lyon Street (at Bay), San Francisco

Free Admission

Benjamin Creme is an author, artist and chief editor of *Share International* magazine

Info: 510-841-3738 www.SharingForPeace.org

"... a detailed and decidedly upbeat description of world changes." — *The New York Times*

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LOCAL HERO
SHAREN HEWITT

"The thing I love most in life is being a grandmother for social change."

COMMUNITY ORGANIZER AND ACTIVIST

"If you mess up, you fess up — and then you fix it up." That's one of the motivational philosophies Sharen Hewitt, founder and executive director of the Community Leadership Academy and Emergency Response Project (CLAER) passes on to the people she works with. Her organization provides peer-to-peer empowerment and civic engagement programs as well as immediate crisis stabilization for victims of violence, helping them get the support they need. CLAER is based in Bayview, "but we serve the whole city, which unfortunately needs us more than ever," she says.

A community leader and organizer for decades, Hewitt has been a critical and unyielding voice on housing, voter registration, education, employment, and political access issues. Her current focus has been on easing recent tensions between the African American and Asian American communities, weeding through the crowded field of candidates running for District 10 supervisor, and "insuring continuing dialogue about the development of sound public policy in the face of diminishing resources."

"We celebrate diversity, and we try to raise the bar every day," she says of CLAER (www.claerproject.org). "San Francisco is the richest city in the richest state in the richest country in the world. It should be unlimited in its capacity to serve." SFBG

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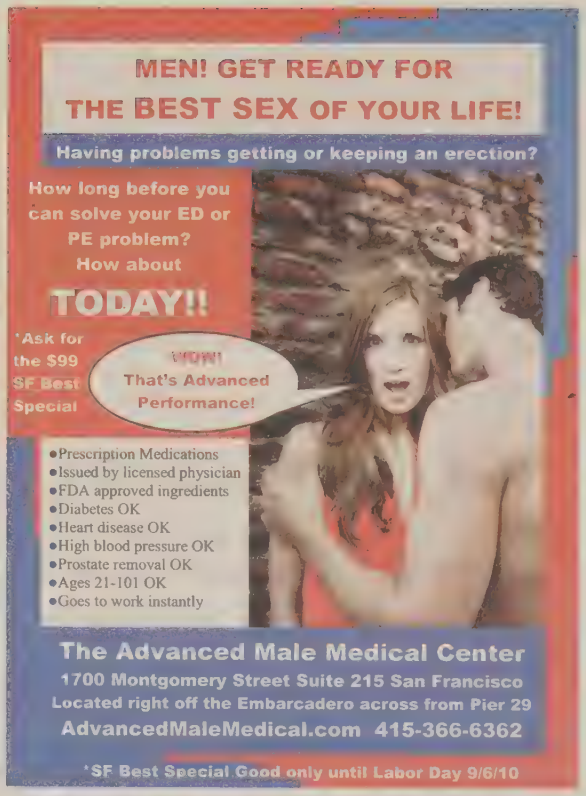

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CITY LIVING

Best Mini Meditation: Scott Street Labyrinth | GUARDIAN PHOTO BY BEN HOPFER

BEST SMACKDOWN FROM THE MOUND

You can't script 'em this good. Upstart A's pitcher **Dallas Braden** gives New York Yankee peacock Alex Rodriguez an earful after A-Rod breaks an unspoken code of the baseball diamond by trotting across the pitching mound on his way back to first base. It's not the first time A-Rod has disregarded one of these rules (see Toronto series, May 2007), and Braden doesn't stand for it. A-Rod, and New York sports radio, quickly respond by belittling Braden as a smaller-timer. Lo, the Yankees eat their words a few weeks later when Braden pitches a perfect game — effectively putting himself in the company of baseball's Hall of Fame immortals. But that's not even the best part. Having lost his mother at a young age, Braden pitched his masterpiece on Mother's Day ... with the grandmother that raised him in attendance. It was a sports story for the ages. And after all that has and will be said about this feat, it was Braden's grandma who summed it up best in a post game interview: "Stick it, A-Rod."
www.oaklandathletics.com

BEST ON-RAMP TO OVERALLS

Pop quiz: which is better for an inner city neighborhood: a freeway or a farm? The answer's a no-brainer for the volunteers at **Hayes Valley Farm**, which occupies the area on and around an unused on-ramp damaged in the Loma Prieta quake and abandoned since 1989. Those volunteers have already put thousands of hours into the new urban farming oasis. From the fava beans planted to purge the exhausted soil of the petrochemicals that once spewed from passing cars to the hundreds of fruit trees that now occupy the still-there on-ramp's ascent to blue sky ("the biggest garden patio in the city," as volunteers have dubbed its leafy lanes), the farm is providing an educational opportunity for all those who thought they forsook their farmer fantasies when they chose to live here. Now offering kids' classes, permaculture boot camp for the uninitiated, and environmental movie nights for all comers, Hayes Valley has planted a seed in the 'hood for food security.
450 Laguna, SF. (415) 763-7645
www.hayesvalleyfarm.com

BEST OPEN SOURCE PLAYPEN

Perhaps you are a geek. Or perhaps you just wish you were. Maybe you think all geeks are geniuses with mandatory Mensa memberships and haven't tapped into your inner geek for fear of failure. Hie thee to **Noisebridge**, where dyed-in-the-wool geeks and their wannabe compatriots come together to explore technology and gaming in a nonscary, mostly noncompetitive environment. Want to learn how to circuit hack, program in Python, create apps for your overpriced cellular device — or speak a foreign language, play Go, pick locks, tie knots, and take over the world? Noisebridge is the place to test your skills, acquire new ones, and maybe pass along your own skills to the life hack community, which is growing by the week. The roomy warehouse space (formerly a clothing sweatshop) is large enough to fit a small herd of quasi-geniuses at one time, and the vibe is welcoming and smart.
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CONTINUES ON PAGE 14 >>

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BEST OF THE BAY 2010

City Living CONT>>

BEST BOTTLED BEAUTY

The haters didn't think she'd make it out of the Bay. After all, she is made of trash. Well, not quite — **Plastiki**, the boat brainchild of David Rothschild and his Adventure Ecology team, was built from recycled plastics. A hull fashioned from 12,500 discarded plastic bottles was one of her more notable attributes, as were the vertical kitchen garden that twines about her mast and a bicycle-powered energy generator. The craft was fashioned as an apt calling card for Rothschild and crew's planned visit to the North Pacific Gyre, the neighborhood where the Pacific Trash Vortex (or if you like, the Great Pacific Garbage Patch) dismayingly swirls. Plastiki's launch three months ago from Sausalito began a journey of nearly 8,000 miles to the pole of pollution (at an average speed that barely rivals that of your mom's morning jog). She made it to Sydney on July 19, slightly worse for wear but having raised many an eyebrow and consciousness regarding our disastrous penchant for plastics.
www.theplastiki.com

> "Washington Square Park. Just hanging out with my Yorkie in the grass. Focaccia in hand from Liguria Bakery. Happy and chill."
>
> Corey, North Beach

BEST FOUR-ON-FOUR BALLIN'

Still got a mad case of World Cup fever? There's a lot of time between now and Brazil's hosting gig in CONTINUES ON PAGE 16 >>

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City Living CONT>>

014, but there's no reason to let our newfound love of football – er, soccer — dwindle. Why not ry hitting the pitch yourself? All bilities and ages are welcome at **occerFours**, a four-on-four league hat meets weekly at various SF nd East Bay fields. The "games" re more like training workshops: here's no scoreboard, ergo no ooligan-style competitiveness. nstead, players are encouraged o work on their moves in a supportive (and fun!) environment. occerFours' website — which eclares the program's focus to be n "fitness, teamwork, and skills" – lists currently available sessions $7 for a single game; multi-session asses are also available). How else re you gonna discover that you ave an inner Lionel Messi waiting o break out?
ww.soccerfours.com

BEST AIRBORNE ASHTANGA

A good yoga class often makes our body feel light as a feather – but Oakland's new **Flying Yoga Shala** is all about making your practice feather-like in a more literal fashion. Jump, stretch, dance, cartwheel off your mat's restrictive rectangle, and levitate your way to transcendent meditation. This airborne Temescal spot offers classes in acrobatic circuit training, aerial yoga, dance, and even some traditional basics — but nothing ordinary whatsoever, and definitely nothing even close to boring. Break the yoga mold and shape your body into a ridiculously sexy form with a range of thrill-seeking instructors, including the incredible Laura Camp, the studio's owner and director who part-times as a circus aerialist and writer. While there are multiple classes with a not-so-beginner curriculum, the studio does offer options for every level. Just wear something airy and be prepared to soar.
4308 Telegraph, Oakl.
www.flyingyogashala.com

BEST FEE FOR BIG QI

Perhaps in the battle over health care, we'd do well to consider the preventive approach of Eastern medicine: regularly maintain your health and therefore avoid the health care industry altogether.

Best Murals for Dreamers: Hotel Des Arts

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CONTINUES ON PAGE 18 >>

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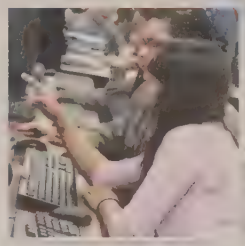

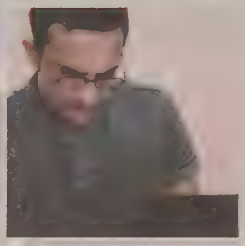

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BEST OF THE BAY 2010

City Living CONT>>

BEST STAND AGAINST SIT/LIE

Andy Blue has been a stalwart political activist on a variety of progressive San Francisco campaigns for years, doing whatever needed to be done in big election races from Matt Gonzalez's 2003 mayoral run to this year's underdog effort to defeat the PG&E-funded Proposition 16. But it was when cops and NIMBYs started pushing for a sit/lie ordinance to criminalize the simple act of kicking it on a San Francisco sidewalk that Andy's creativity, leadership abilities, and tireless advocacy really shone. He organized and promoted the Stand Against Sit/Lie campaign that encouraged dozens of small protests and events on sidewalks throughout the city, an effort that shifted the momentum of the debate and helped lead to the defeat of the ordinance. Although Mayor Gavin Newsom has placed the measure on the November ballot, Blue and his crew plan to keep fighting it — and anyone who tries to score cheap political points in pushing it. www.standagainstsitlie.org

> "My favorite person and hairstylist is my husband, Steve Elias!"
>
> David, the Mission

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Well, what do you know. San Francisco really *is* the land of fruits and nuts. Our hedgerows are bustling with bounty, our byways bursting with ripe Meyer lemons, Marina strawberries, olives, apples, loquats, almonds, and figs. Where? All around — if you know where to look. Juicy online guide **Neighborhood Fruit** will tell you exactly where to find fresh, seasonal goodies right in your own or your neighbor's backyard. Led by founders Kaytea Petro and Oriana Sarac, the Neighborhood Fruit team has registered thousands of wild fruit trees ripe for the picking. Got more yummy yield than you can pos-

Best On-Ramp to Overalls: Hayes Valley Farm | GUARDIAN PHOTO BY CAITLIN DONOHUE

sibly can? Sign up to let other fruit fiends knock on your door and pick those extraneous plums with aplomb. It's the most delicious kind of community bonding.
www.neighborhoodfruit.com

BEST SOARING PROSE

Sling a bookmark any direction in the city and you'll hit a cache of literary history. Nowhere more so than on the fertile inking grounds of North Beach, where the ghosts of Kerouac, Ginsberg, et al. can easily be convinced to grab a beer or 12 with you at Vesuvio. After carousing with those ruminative spirits, you'd be forgiven for mistaking the sight of 23 glowing books floating above the intersection of Broadway and Columbus as mere Beat-stricken hallucination. But hark, mad one, to the call of those illuminated manuscripts: Brian Goggins and Dorka Keen's **"Language of the Birds"** art installation is solid as flesh. The tomes are part of the Department of Public Works' 2008 Broadway streetscape improvement project, helping to make your pedestrian carousing a better-lit and therefore safer one. But enough about the earthly machinations. Dance like a dervish 'neath the flashing pages and check under your toes for lines they've left behind.
Broadway and Columbus, SF.

BEST PLACE TO PARK YOUR DINGY

The Guardian's giving a Best of the Bay award ... to a boat club? Blistering barnacles! You knew we'd sell out one of these days, right? Just. Kidding. See, the **Bayview Boat Club** isn't your typical, exclusive "golden epaulet and waxed mustache" kind of operation, looking down at you from a platinum prow. (Wait a minute — waxed mustaches are actually kind of cool these days.) Since 1961, its China Basin doors have been open to membership applications from anyone with two member sponsors and at least a one-quarter interest in a seafaring vehicle — although its definition of "boat" is flexible. The BVBC also is well known for its giddy annual Beer Can Races and good time-bar times in the members-only clubhouse once the schooners ease into their slips. Live music, nautical-themed movies, art openings, and strong drinks are standard issue for its sailors. Shiver our timbers, you could be one of them.
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BEST SLOW GAME PINCH HITTERS

The pitcher adjusts his cap. The batter steps out of the box. The infielders huddle at the mound. Then six fastballs get fouled into the seats. Damn, baseball is exciting. At least in the AT&T Park bleachers you've got options (pretty girls, big cups of booze, Baywatch). But Giants fans at home must rely on the sportscasters for entertainment during the many lulls. So bully for you if you're tuned in to the best in the business, **Mike Krukow and Duane Kuiper** of KNBR 680/1050 AM and CSN Bay Area TV. Mirthfully striding the base line that separates fill-time prattle from full-on provocation, the two banter like old pals, cracking wise about their combined 24 seasons in the majors and drawing on those years for pithy insights about the game at hand. When "America's

CONTINUES ON PAGE 22 >>

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LOCAL HERO
JANE MARTIN

"I love being around a really vibrant queer and progressive community."

LABOR ACTIVIST

On March 8, labor activist Jane Martin helped organize a flash mob in the crowded lobby of San Francisco's Westin St. Francis Hotel. The purpose was to spread the word about a worker-called boycott of the hotel and urge tourists coming in for Pride to stay elsewhere. For five raucous and entertaining minutes, members of Pride at Work/HAVOQ, One Struggle One Fight, and the Brass Liberation Orchestra burst through the doors to sing, play, and dance to Lady Gaga's hit "Bad Romance," warning bewildered patrons not to "get caught in a bad hotel."

The result: A collaborative effort of young and innovative labor leaders like Martin became a viral YouTube sensation, reaching hundreds of thousands of viewers. Martin has been joining with hotel workers in picket lines and organizing around queer economic justice issues in the Bay Area since 2001. She led picket lines at the Omni Hotel to decry the company's move of locking out thousands of workers. "To ultimately win was really exciting," she said. "When the hotels backed off, that was really inspiring."

She recently joined 1,000 in staging a protest at the home of GOP gubernatorial candidate Meg Whitman as part of her organizing work with the California Nurses Association. And, as always with Martin, there's more in the works. SFBG

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Best Stand Against Sit-Lie: Andy Blue
PHOTO BY JULIAN DAVIS

City Living CONT>>

game" starts to sag, Kruk and Kuip happily resort to their second favorite pastime: using the tele-scribbler to "eliminate" people wearing Dodgers gear.

BEST POLITICAL SHIT-SIFTERS

Political websites are full of crap. Cranks, crooks, straight up sensationalism ... We love it all, of course. But when we want to know what's really going on in the down and dirty, smoke-filled backrooms of California politics, we click our way to progressive open source news site **Calitics.com**. East Bay keyboard-clackers Brian Leubitz and Robert Cruikshank stay well abreast of Sacramento's whiz-bang wool-pulling, and you can get a bead on the biggest stories all around the state from the site's open threads and links. Yet Calitics offers a lot more than shit-sifting: these folks understand what the news really means. Their analyses and interpretations are far more acute than those of the state's lumbering daily newspapers. And Cruikshank is one of the few writers of any political slant who actually understands economics. Now, can they please work on getting some visuals up there? Photos, people, photos!
www.calitics.com

BEST ROYAL SCRUBDOWN

There once was an old-school spa near Japan Center with little pretense and a sauna, hot pool, cold pool, and steam room. At some point or another it lost some true joie de vivre while gaining bourgie trappings. It was time for spa-lovers seeking a simple, clean, quiet place for relaxation (with a lovely red clay sauna that "removes toxic superannuation") to move on — to **Imperial Spa**. Hidden in a strip mall, also near Japan Center, Imperial also offers a rough touch: intense, full-body scrubs sure to remove all of the dead skin from your carcass. The masseuses here don't play — their Korean massage passes the threshold of mere exfoliation to revive circulation and concludes with a combination of cucumber, yogurt, and milk that leaves you feeling shiny and new. Imperial Spa has separate men's and women's facilities, which means that it's open to two genders seven days a week.
1875 Geary, SF. (415) 771-1114
www.imperialdayspa.com

BEST CHECK (ONE-TWO, ONE-TWO) ON YOUTH POVERTY

We've all heard the stereotypes about East Oakland. The drugs, the gangs — the future media superstars? Fearmongers aside, this neighborhood has some seri-

ous bright spots. Launched in 1997 in a colorful building next to Castlemont High School at the behest of students sick of violence in their schools, **Youth Uprising** infuses the lives of young people with the skills they need to get to where they want to go. On-the-job training programs that hook kids onto college tracks? Check. Top-of-the-line media arts center that teaches video production, music recording, and web design? Check. Dance studio, art classes, holistic health care center, and a staff who has walked — successfully — the same streets as YU's members? You bet. The mic is set, can you hear them now?
877 MacArthur, Oakl. (510) 777-9909
www.youthuprising.org

"One of my greatest pleasures is watching and photographing the lively brown pelicans at the Marina dive for dinner."

Melinda,
Outer Sunset

BEST MURALS FOR DREAMERS

The way artist-appropriated, color-covered walls keep popping up in SF, it can be hard to pull your out-of-town friends indoors, even for some shut-eye. But book them a room at **Hotel Des Arts**, and they can revel in our city's Technicolor bubble letters and moody characters, even in their dreams. That's because Des Arts has tapped street art luminaries Chor Boogie, Sam Flores, Brian Barneclo, Shepard Fairey, and others to make regular hotel décor look as lame as, well, regular hotel décor. It's a dream collection of underground art. All four walls in each of the hotel's painted rooms — even the bathrooms are tagged up — feature art

CONTINUES ON PAGE 24 >>

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City Living CONT>>

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www.sfhoteldesarts.com

BEST MINI MEDITATION

Labyrinth lover Janet Scheuer had a dream to "create a quiet, restful spot" for people in San Francisco. The realization of her dream, the 23-foot wide **Scott Street Labyrinth** at Duboce Park, is just right for some brief lunchtime meditation, without the tourist crowds at Grace Cathedral's marble behemoth or the somewhat harrowing journey through the Marin Headlands to reach the one at Eagle's Point. A little avocado sandwich from Courtney's up the street, a little ambulatory journey through the metaphor of life ... What could be more perfectly serene? The jury's still out on the recent refurbishment of the park in general — too much asphalt, not enough foliage, enormous cost — but this added gem puts an ingratiatingly spiritual polish on the whole project. There's even a raised scale model to finger-trace for the sight-impaired or for those who want some practice before embarking on their brief-but-invigorating spiral contemplation cycle.
Scott Street between Duboce and Waller, SF.

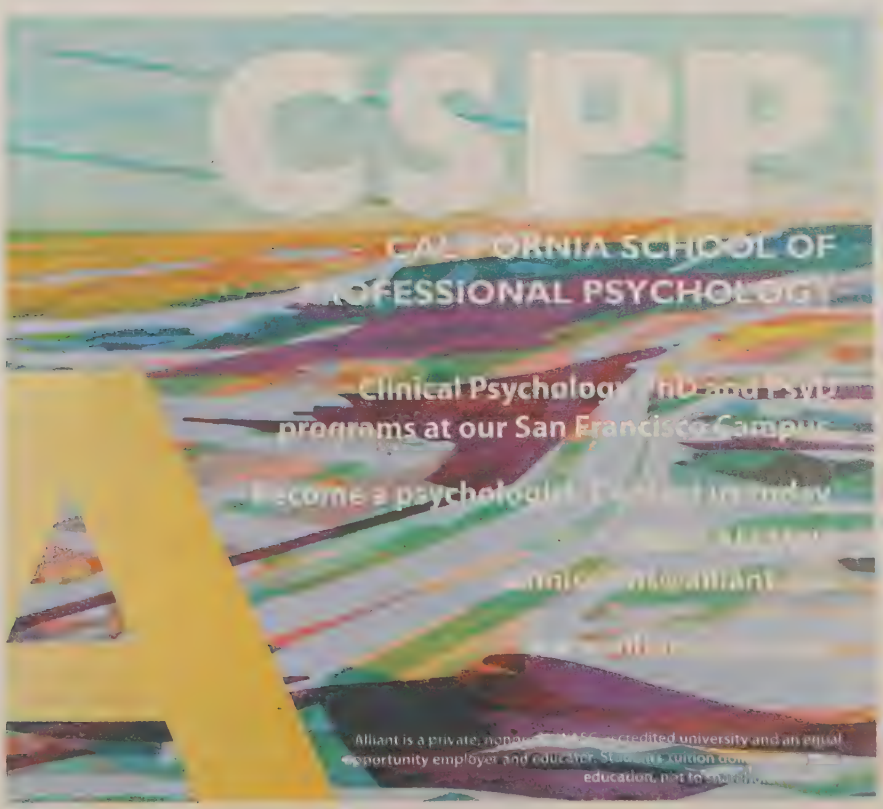
BEST WAG 'N' WASH

Take it from Jules Winnfield, Samuel Jackson's character in *Pulp Fiction*: "I wouldn't go so far as to call a dog filthy, but they definitely dirty." And when it's bath time, pooches can turn any home into a wet, hairy, muddy nightmare. Avoid this by taking them to **Pawtrero Bathhouse and Feed Company**. The front of the Potrero Hill location looks like a typical pet store, but the back room is doggie-bath heaven. The floor is concrete, with a drain. Two large stainless steel baths cover one wall. You can walk your doggie up a ramp, close the door, throw on a complimentary rubber smock, and unleash a powerful warm-water hose on your sloppy Snoopy. Pawtrero offers a wide selection of organic, skin-sensitive soaps and shampoos to leave your mutt looking and smelling squeaky clean. Use the free towels to dry the beast off, put the smock back on the hook, and you're out of there — for just $15.
199 Mississippi, SF. (415) 863-7279
and 199 Brannan, SF. (415) 882-7297
www.pawtrero.com

BEST SLIP 'N' SLIDES

For two years, **Hamilton Recreation Center** had been closed for renovations, depriving Western Addition residents of a public space to gather, get down, and, yes, exercise. But it reopened in March, tickling West Addys pink with a grade-A public place to play. We're totally digging on the sparkling new b-ball courts, the vast acreage of tennis pitches and playground, the free-use cardio workout room, and the glorious pool. But alongside that pool is something that really churns our butterfly stroke: Hamilton Recreation Center's water slides. That's right — there are two of those slip 'n' slide babies, fit to dump squealing future Thorpedoes into the water with a great big splash. Pick your poison, spiral yellow or L-curve orange, and launch into the lanes below. Forget Six

Best Wag 'n' Wash: Pawtrero Bathhouse and Feed Company
GUARDIAN PHOTO BY BEN HOPFER



Flags, there are wet and wild times to be had closer to home. All ages welcome. (Alas, no coolers of ice-cold brewskis allowed.)
1900 Geary, SF. (415) 292-2008
www.sf-recpark.org

BEST ONLINE TIMESINKERS

Farmville. Fishville. Frontierville. Mafia Wars. Treasure Isle. Here you've gone through all the trouble of locating your old classmates and ex-coworkers on Facebook, and the only regular updates you receive from them are about the last virtual person they iced or how some orphan cow wandered onto their digital acreage. Moo! Blame the insidious explosion of social network gaming on SF's own **Zynga**, the up-and-coming tech company founded by Mark Pincus and named after his bulldog, with a nod to an African warrior queen. Dedicated to "connecting people through games" (although in many cases disconnecting them as well) Zynga's many addictive timesinks have claimed the afternoons of millions who should know better but just. Can't. Stop. Collecting. Pixelated. Piranhas. Fine, we admit it, us too. That's OK, feel free to hide our streams. But first, can you spare a bushel of virtual corn?
www.zynga.com

> "The Academy of Sciences is the best place to take kids. My 3-year-old never gets tired of it, and it's open every day!"

BEST DIRTY WORK IN THE WILD

As lovely as Golden Gate Park is to us city slickers, wilderness it's not. That is, 96 percent of it isn't. But the remaining 4 percent does qualify as "natural area," which the **San Francisco Natural Areas Program** defines as spots where our little peninsula is preserved in all its original, biodiverse beauty. The organization should know — SFNAP is in charge of keeping these corners (which comprise some 500 acres in 35 parks including Bernal Hill, Corona Heights, and Glen Canyon Park) healthy and species-wealthy. The organization relies on the work of thousands of volunteers who get dirty in the name of preventing erosion, planting food for wildlife, pulling invasive species, and other saintly duties. The city is a jungle? Maybe not — but it is a salt marsh, desert, grassland, and woodland, and SFNAP means to keep it that way.
www.sfnap.org

BEST CITY HALL CROONER

A regular fixture at City Hall, **Walter Paulson**, a.k.a. "the singing guy," stands out for his creative use of the two minutes allotted for public comment at board and commission sessions. He serenades supervisors with his own original a cappella ditties, taking full advantage of the mic and acoustics in the majestic board chambers without ever wandering off topic. His songs have been known to introduce comic relief to tense meetings, forcing even the most serious-minded supes to crack a smile and occasionally drawing a smattering of applause. Paulson proves that inspiration can be derived from even the driest, wonkiest policy discussions. And as he belts out melodies about planning documents or salary ordinances, he infuses something distinctly San Franciscan into the public record.

BEST KINKY ARROYO

An open secret: a freshwater creek flows freely through the Mission, albeit entombed beneath layers of concrete and asphalt. Water shortages and ground stabilization concerns have the city contemplating daylighting this ancient arroyo, but for now it remains hidden from view. Well, sort of. When the National Guard decided to build a new Armory at the intersection of Mission and 14th streets after the 1906 earthquake destroyed the old one, it kept a wee bit of creek exposed in the basement, just in case it might need an independent water source if the populace grew restless. (Good call on its part: the Armory served as a retreat when the guard shot strikers on Bloody Thursday in 1934.) The Armory has a new owner, of course, one that specializes in a more extreme form of militaristic fetishism and wet exposure. But you can still get a glimpse of that mossy bit of **Mission Creek in Kink.com's basement** if you snag a spot on one of the BDSM adult film company's tours of its jaw-dropping headquarters — and ask (beg?) nicely.
1800 Mission, SF
www.sfarmory.com, www.kink.com

BEST HARD-BOILED PEREGRINATION

There's been more than one Sam Spade — Dashiell Hammett's prototypical *The Maltese Falcon* character was adapted many times from that hard-boiled 1930 novel, most famously by Bogart himself. But there's only one Don Herron, author and intrepid creator of the **Dashiell Hammett Tour**. Meet the snap-brimmed Herron in the Civic Center (possibly with your favorite femme fatale in tow) for a fog-shrouded journey through Hammett's San Franciscan haunts.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 27 >>

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RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS

City Living CONT>>

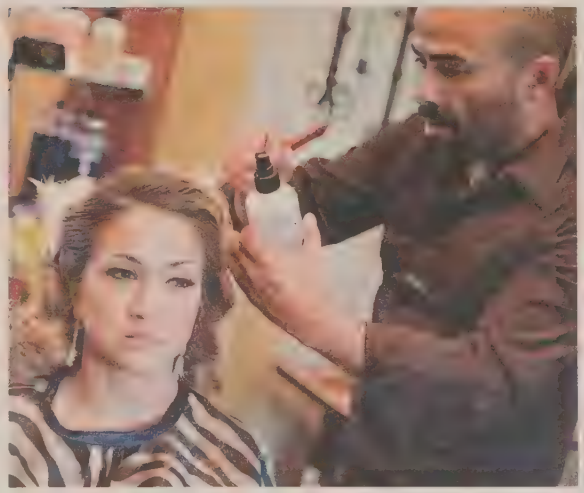
The guide has been stalking these means streets since 1977, and he'll gladly enumerate and elucidate the back alleys and byways where Hammett set his much-beloved private eye paperbacks. With Herron, you're in good hands. So cinch that trench coat a notch tighter, keep 'em peeled for clues, and, please, beware of heavily lipsticked knockouts with an ax to grind.
www.donherron.com

BEST EMERALD TRAILS

"Every time I get on the green, its like a sigh of relief." No, we didn't just impel Renée Rivera, executive director of SF Bike Coalition, to get real about Proposition 19. She's talking about the new protected **green bike lanes on Market Street**, one of the most exciting steps taken in the last year toward making our streets safer for cruisers of the two-wheel variety. The green lanes, which extend from Eighth Street to Gough, are partitioned from cars by waist-high, safe-hit white posts. And a movement is afoot to stretch the lanes further afield: the Bike Coalition got a commitment from the mayor to extend the verdant zone as far as the Ferry Building and is in talks to put similar lanes on Oak, Fell, Townsend, San Jose, and the Embarcadero.
Market between Eighth and Gough, SF

BEST SAND DUNE SLEUTHS

It's been a wild world out in the western neighborhoods of San Francisco. Before the sidewalks came, the Richmond, Sunset, and other oceanside districts were a wonderland of sand dunes and historical curiosities. What was it like? Lack of information about the area's past proved primo ponder fodder for Woody LaBounty, and inspired him to launch the **Western Neighborhoods Project**. Today the curious need only to partake in one of the group's history walks, or look to its spectacularly detailed Outside Lands blog to benefit from the project's insightful research on the bygone days of the avenues. Western wonderings have turned up tales that will hold even those on the other side of Twin Peaks rapt. LaBounty's recently released book *Carville-by-the-Sea* excavates the intriguing bohemian vacation town of retired streetcars that cropped up on Ocean Beach back at the turn of the 20th century.
www.outsidelands.org



Best 'Do for Your "I Do": Get Your Do Up

BEST NEIGHBORHOOD CANOODLING

Despite immediate proximity, rarely do the leaders of North Beach and Chinatown collaborate on an event, or do the residents of the two neighborhoods gather together in celebration of their shared heritage. What could break the ice more than a steaming heap of that Asian-Italian delicacy — noodles? This year the Chinatown Community Development Center and North Beach Merchants Association got together in the most delicious way possible: **Noodlefest** took Grant Avenue by storm, placing restaurant pasta powerfuls from both neighborhoods streetside in honor of the almighty macaroni and mein. The slurping multitudes — tasting tickets, which entitled purchasers to six hefty mini-meals, sold out in hours — dove into massive piles of (chow) fun and fettuccine. Besides the romantic appeal of reenacting that scene from *Lady and the Tramp* beneath decorative Chinese lanterns, this hopefully yearly event provided a warm, slippy bridge between these two intercontinental culinary titans.
www.chinatowncdc.org
www.northbeachmerchants.com

BEST OLD-FASHIONED SUMMER CAMP

Remember when summer camp was all about wandering around the woods, catching bugs, getting wet and muddy in the stream, roasting marshmallows, and doing stupid skits that involved cracking eggs on your head? Well, even in this city of fancy arts camps, computer camps, and other high-end sources of academic and personal growth for the urban child, there's still a chance to be a kid. Right in town. And it's cheap. More than 2,000 San Francisco kids make their way every summer to Glen Canyon Park, where **Silver Tree Camp**, run by SF Recreation and Park Department, eschews classroom lessons, electronic equipment, and intensive instruction of any kind. There are hikes, arts and crafts, and songs and skits in one of the few places in the big city that feels like wilderness. But a lot of the time, particularly in the before and after-care programs, is unstructured: the kids play outside. Like kids.
www.sfkids.org

BEST 'DO FOR YOUR "I DO"

Weddings: they're all fun and games and exorbitant expenses and heterosexual privilege — until the bride's hair falls. Then? Disaster! Avoid any potential Bridezilla moments by calling upon the wizardly hair (and makeup) skills of one Armando Sarabia. His mobile beauty service, **Get Your Do Up**, brings the look to you, with on-location consultations and makeovers sure to guarantee love, honor, and obedience. He'll take you through it all in style, from initial makeup color palette consultation to frisky honeymoon runway take-off look. Sarabia's talents aren't just reserved for romantic matrimonials, either: girls' nights out, media appearances, boudoir photography sessions, holiday gatherings, and just general cuts, colors, and styling

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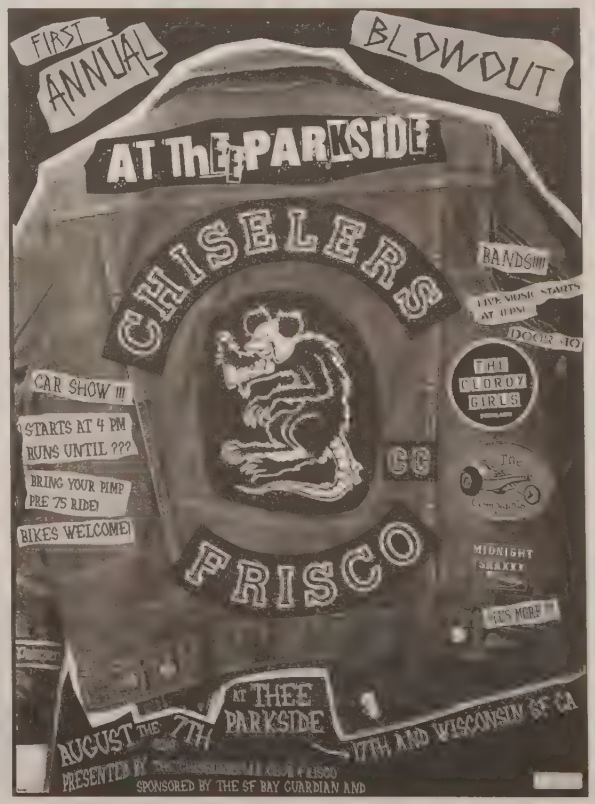

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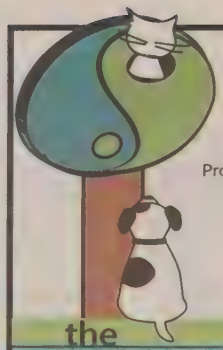

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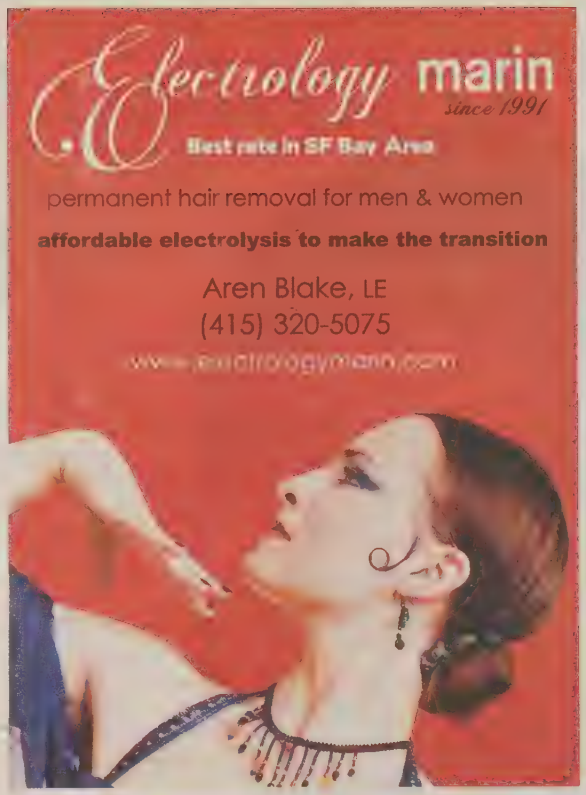
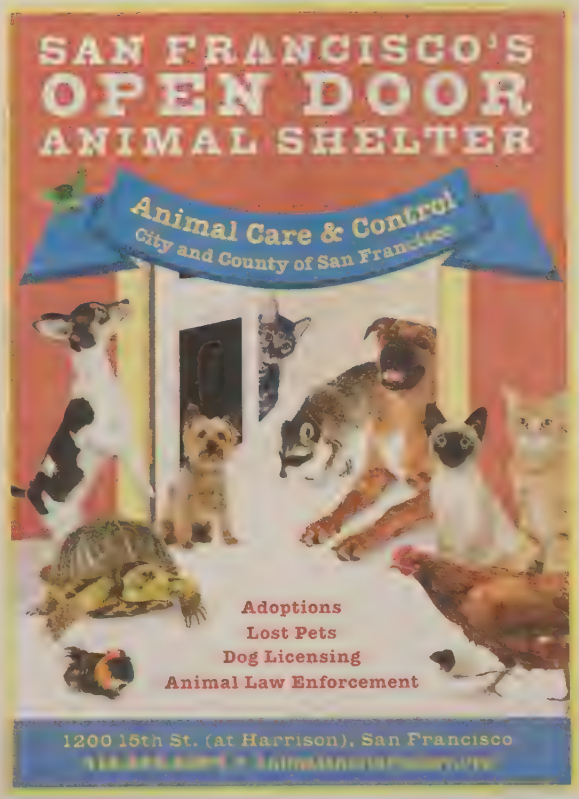
BEST GOON SQUAD
SF native Mark Barbeau lives thousands of miles from the home stadium of his beloved Arsenal F.C. soccer team, a.k.a. the Gunners, in Islington, England. It could have been a lonely life had he not hit upon the idea to pull together some local Gunner goodwill. And thus was born the **Bay Area Gooners**, a ragtag bunch who gather in a North Beach Irish pub to pint their way through those early morning (time zone differences can't stop this soccer spirit) footie matches between the "greatest team of all time" and whosoever dares to challenge them. Arsenal love runs strong in this group: during a recent power outage that affected the Gooners' regular game-day perch at Maggie McGarry's, Barbeau offered up his apartment's living room to his Gunner-lovin' brethren. Oh to be, oh to be, oh to be a Gooner!
www.bayareagooners.com

BEST PEOPLE POWER VS. CORPORATE POWER
When Pacific Gas and Electric Co. decided to put a measure on the California ballot that would effectively outlaw public power in the state, the situation looked bleak. PG&E set aside $30 million to spend pushing the measure, a total that later rose to more than $45 million. And yet, against some of the worst odds in American political history, a grassroots crew defeated one of the nation's largest private utilities. The **No on 16 campaign** managed to line up almost every newspaper in the state against PG&E. It created and posted Web ads. It lobbied local government agencies to pass resolutions against the measure. Sup. Ross Mirkarimi led the effort in San Francisco, pushing other officials in the state to organize against it. Assembly Member Tom Ammiano and Sen. Mark Leno helped raise money and led the fight in Sacramento. Campaign consultant Gale Kaufman coordinated the effort. Matt Freedman, Mindy Spatt, and Mark Toney of the Utility Reform Network hosted meetings and handled campaign affairs that elected officials couldn't. Volunteer public power activists including Eric Brooks, Bruce Wolfe, and Paul Fenn contributed time and effort, and Ben Zolno produced the campaign videos. And they saved public power in California. SFBG





LOCAL HERO
ISO RABINS

"My favorite thing about the Bay Area is the coast along Route 1. It consistently amazes me."

FOOD PHILOSOPHER AND FORAGER

Food revolutionary Iso Rabins has organized the most intriguing — and fun — food events of the last year, expanding his health code-defying Underground Market far beyond its original berth in a Mission District home. But his keystone contribution to the Bay Area is his ability to communicate his vision of feeding communities without the agro-industrial machine — by recognizing the soil-generated bounty available to all of us if we know where to look.

"The way our society is structured right now didn't seem like it paid attention to our local community. I think food is a great way to break through that," Rabins says. His brainchild is forageSF (www.foragesf.com), an organization that promotes hunting and gathering through wild food walks, eight-course foraged meals, and retail opportunities for foragers who spend days picking through the woods, fields, and coastlines. In the locavore-freegan vein, Rabins calls attention to a world beyond shrink-wrap and leaden government regulations. And his message is being eaten up by change-hungry SF. "I really think you can do business and help people at the same time," he says. SFBG

GUARDIAN PHOTO BY KEENEY AND LAW PHOTOGRAPHY

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www.millenniumrestaurant.com

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www.garydanko.com

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BEST OF THE BAY 2010: EDITORS PICKS

FOOD AND DRINK

Best Mexican Lesson: Nopalito | GUARDIAN PHOTO BY RORY MCNAMARA

BEST PERKS FOR PROUD PERVERTS

A Web search for every cafe, a cafe for every Web search? All well and good, but what if your search is for the best goldarn double-sided dildo there is — and you're sick of that uptight suit over there eyeing your Googles? Proudly pervy surf-and-sippers, you officially have a kick-it spot. Kink café and boutique **Wicked Grounds** not only brews steamy cups of Ritual coffee, but hosts regular meet-and-munches where you can warm up to your next dom, sub, or whatever you're into these days. The welcoming staff can be easily convinced to serve coffee from a dog bowl for the right slave. (Caution: contents may be hot!) They might also be able to help out with that just-right vibe hunt: shelves by the front counter stock all the finest gear in Super Sexy Toyland.
289 Eighth St., SF. (415) 503-0405
www.wickedgrounds.com

BEST EFA DOSE ON TOAST

When it comes to sardines, you have to think outside the earthquake shelter. On the flavorometer, the tinned food of last resort (served on tarps in the shelter with Saltines and stale water) bears no resemblance to its freshly grilled or roasted self. Not only are the little silver herrings tasty, they pack a megadose of essential fatty acids, the stuff nutritionists keep nagging us to eat more of. But no one needs to tell this to the Italian-inspired chefs who created the **sardine sandwich at Barbacco Eno Trattoria**, the more casual relation of Perbacco in the Financial District. Unlike restaurants that play it safe with sardines by smothering them in mayonnaise and lemon juice, Barbacco tops its sardines with seared calamari. Not most people's first choice, perhaps, but the two get along swimmingly, especially when served on an Acme torpedo roll and slathered with arugula and "roasted tomatoe condimento."
220 California, SF. (415) 955-1919
www.barbaccosf.com

BEST HOLE IN ONE

When people start trash-talking donuts, it's hard not to imagine a life in which the person was weaned on Hostess or Entenmann's and maybe stepped up to Dunkin' or Krispy Kreme on special occasions. In other words, we're talking a lifetime of mass production, where the only donuts these people have encountered spent their nasty, brutish, and short lives being callously blended in giant vats and stuffed into huge ovens, untouched — nay, unkneaded! — by human hands. Not so at **Dynamo Donuts & Coffee**, the small, open-air stand in the Mission that is diligently working to give donuts a good name. Each day the artisanal bakery makes seven to 10 types of donuts, all by hand. Standouts include the maple-glazed bacon apple, spiced chocolate, and lemon Sichuan filled with lemon curd and Dynamo's incomparable "dredge."
2670 24th St., SF. (415) 920-1978
www.dynamodonut.com

BEST FOWL TO TABLE

Which came first: the chickens or the eggs? At **Stable Cafe**, what probably came first was a commitment to fresh, local, sustainable

CONTINUES ON PAGE 34 >>

LA NOTE

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Best Damn Cioppino: Cioppino at Sotto Mare
GUARDIAN PHOTO BY BEN HOPFER

Food and Drink CONT>>

food, which led to its farm in Santa Rosa, which led to its chickens, which led to its eggs, which led to its egg and cheese breakfast sandwich, which is a savory, molten marvel of scrambled egg and cheddar on thick, toasted Acme bread. But this light, airy Mission District cafe, beautifully renovated by architect Malcolm Davis in one of SF's original carriage houses, brings that kind of integrity to everything it does. Its credo seems to be, do a small number of things well (know thy chickens; bake thy own muffins) — and adhere it does. And if you want to pay homage to the laying lovelies who created your eggs, Stable has their photos on the wall.
2128 Folsom, SF. (415) 552-1199
www.stablecafe.com

BEST CZECHVARS WITH A TWIST OF BOHEMIA

For a city with such a strong bohemian reputation, San Francisco has surprisingly few spaces that capture some of the flavor of the actual place. Yes, Virginia, there really is a Bohemia — and its capital is Prague. (One prefers the emphatic German spelling: PRAG. No lazy French vowels trailing behind, doing nothing!) And, speaking of nothing, nothing says Prague quite like a mug of the beer known to the Czechs as Budvar but to us, we of the North American market — perhaps because of a potential conflict with Budweiser — as Czechvar. A splendid place to enjoy said beer, whatever its name, is at the aptly named **Café Prague**. The feel inside is wonderfully Mitteleuropean, while the calorie-rich food emphasizes such basics as starch, meat, and fat. You probably won't leave hungry, or sober.
2140 Mission, SF. (415) 986-0269

BEST CULINARY MULTIPLE PERSONALITY

Don't be deceived; **Red Crawfish** isn't some kind of Red Lobster knockoff. The name is (we guess) a sly joke, and the restaurant does offer crawfish. But neither the

jokey name nor the serving of crawfish is what makes the restaurant special. No, the reason you'll remember Red Crawfish is because of its split personality. And although in human beings, split personalities are generally problem personalities, it's different — and better — with restaurants (in this case, all Jeckyll and no Hyde). By day, Red Crawfish is an ordinary-looking Tenderloin restaurant that lays out an agreeable east Asian menu. But when the sun goes down, the place morphs smoothly into a Cajun spot whose gumbo is superb. Good gumbo doesn't exactly grow on trees in these parts, so for this dish alone, let us all give thanks to Red Crawfish, whichever one it may be.
611 Larkin, SF. (415) 771-1388

BEST MEXICAN LESSON

If Mexican cooking is underrated in this country, part of the reason must be that we've been exposed to fast-food chain tacos and, even in our very own Mission District, overexposed to the burrito — which isn't even authentically Mexican. God save the burrito anyway; it gives a lot of bang for the buck, and that's important in these shriveled times for starving students and plenty of others. But there's a real education to be had as well in the foods of Mexico, and a good place to audit the class is **Nopalito**, an offshoot of the highly regarded Nopa. The care taken about ingredients matches that of the nearby mothership, and the menu ranges nimbly across regional specialties, many of which are unfamiliar. The carnitas are recognizable, but they are also spectacular. It will be as if you've never had them before.
306 Broderick, SF. (415) 437-0303
www.nopalitosf.com

> "Zanze's Cheesecake is by far the best of the best in San Francisco. It's just short of heaven."
>
> Kris, Forest Hill

BEST PUPUSAS AND GOOOAAAALLL!!!S

Football and food take on more global connotations at **Balompié**, and that's just *bueno*. The restaurant is well-hung with huge flat-screen televisions showing soccer matches from around the world, and the food is splendidly Salvadorian at a modest cost. This means lots of *pupusas* and *pasteles*; along with exotica like pacaya (pickled date palm blossoms), and — to rinse down all this bounty — the Salvadorian beer Regia, which comes in bottles that resemble howitzer munitions. But the best thing about Balompié is that at its heart it's a sports bar. Men like to watch sports on big TVs while drinking beer, and it doesn't matter whether they're speaking Spanish, drinking Regia, or pulling for Costa Rica, pupusas in hand.
3349 18th St. (also at 525 Seventh St. and 3801 Mission), SF. (415) 648-9199 (558-9668, 647-4000)

BEST CREPE ME UP BEFORE YOU GO-GO

What do we miss most about Paris in the spring? The hip-hop boys with their gold chains and exposed biceps, the gamine girls in strappy heels, the constant elusive threat of rain, the crowds at Paris-Plages, laden with beer bottles, acoustic guitars, and joie de vivre. But above all, we can't help reminiscing about those street crepes, fresh off the griddle, just the ticket for staving off those inopportune late-night hunger pangs, and great for soaking up any excess *vin ordinaire* in the bargain. Hooray! The 11th Street corridor's **Crepes A Go Go** serves up the best street crepes this far side of the Maginot line. Starting at just $2.50, each crepe is made to order, and filled to oozing point with a decidedly Californian array of savory or sweet options. Open until 4 a.m. on weekends, with complimentary French hip-hop and comfy street-side sofa seating in the bargain. Take that, bacon-wrapped hotdog cart.
350 11th St. and other locations, SF (415) 503-1294

BEST SCONES WITH A SIDE OF ASIMOV

Do you remember when the venerable coffee shop was a place people gathered to *hang out* instead of *network*? Where gamers would shuffle their Magic decks, writers would swap paragraphs, readers would sit quietly for hours with a good book and a pot of tea, and caffeine-fueled college kids would

CONTINUES ON PAGE 36 >>

Food and Drink CONT>>

cram like the dickens? Welcome to **Borderlands Café**, the newest darling of the Valencia Street corridor. An offshoot of the classic Borderlands Books sci-fi bookstore, it's already attracted quite a cross-section of trend-spotting caffiends and café nostalgists who just want to converse without being shushed by perfectly-coiffed appoholics. And with a huge selection of magazines, comfy chairs, and scrumptious cheddar cheese and onion scones, Borderlands has a lot to offer even the solo café dweller. Except for Wi-Fi, which is actually our favorite perk of the place.
Borderlands Café, 870 Valencia, SF
(415) 970-6998
www.borderlands-cafe.com

BEST MOUTHWATERING MAYAN

It's not situated in a chic location, unless you're looking for snazzy new rims or a car wash. But **Poc Chuc** is well worth a trip down a less-bustling stretch of 16th Street for its unique Spanish-Mayan fusion cuisine. Open for lunch and dinner five days a week, the small, unadorned restaurant offers an array of dishes that inject an ancient, mouthwatering twist into standard Latin American fare. (Think plenty of smoked turkey, grilled tomatoes, pickled onions, and, of course, maize in several iterations.) A platillo Maya appetizer platter combines some of its tastiest, bite-sized creations, with plenty to share among a group — but no fighting over the pork empanadas or turkey salbutes! Main dishes include the signature Poc Chuc — grilled citrus-marinated pork topped with grilled tomatoes — and a reliable daily specials menu. Go for the mole!
2886 16th St, SF. (415) 558-1853
www.pocchuc.com

BEST GOOEY MAGIC (NO ELVES REQUIRED)

If you don't like cookies, feel free to skip ahead. But if you were born with taste buds and an appreciation for delicious gooeyness, you'd do well to hit up **Anthony's Cookies**. There is indeed an Anthony — likely you'll see the man himself when you stumble into his Valencia Street shop, lured by the prospect of fresh, hot, calories-be-damned treats. And if Anthony looks like the happiest guy on planet Earth, he probably is — he bakes cookies for a living, after all — using only natural ingredients. Who's magical now, Keebler Elves? Flavors include the usual suspects, plus variations on chocolate chip (semisweet, with walnut, using white chocolate ...) done to soft-meets-crisp perfection, plus inspired creations like cookies and cream and whole wheat oatmeal.
1417 Valencia, SF. (415) 655-9834
www.anthonyscookies.com

Best Totally Worth-it Toothache: Sweetdish
GUARDIAN PHOTO BY BEN HOPFER

BEST XXX

Sink happily into the dark brown booths at Baker and Banker for a memorable Cal cuisine dinner — sweet corn bisque with a plump lobster hush puppy, maybe, or sausage-stuffed quail in a coffee-molasses glaze. Husband and wife chef duo Jeff Banker and Lori Baker get it right with each dish. But you could visit for dessert alone with Lori's ever-changing wonderland of a dessert menu. In fall, dessert might be pumpkin cobbler, steaming hot with a crunchy top and cooled with candied pumpkin seed ice cream. In summer, a cherry tarte tatin accented by salted caramel and amaretti rules. Awesomely, the **Baker and Banker's XXX** triple-dark chocolate layer cake is a constant. This orgiastic slice stands tall with a bottom layer of dark, dense flourless chocolate. Not to be outdone, the middle is a tangy chocolate cheesecake, while the top finally gives you a density break with traditional chocolate cake. One of the more satisfying threesomes in town.
1701 Octavia, SF. (415) 351-2500
www.bakerandbanker.com

BEST FRESH KASHI PAN

Sandbox Bakery is a pocket-sized cafe in Bernal Heights serving Ritual Roasters and De La Paz coffee with classic pastries like Valhrona chocolate croissants or orange currant scones. But it doesn't end there. Owner and pastry chef Mutsumi Takehara's background ranges from Slanted Door to La Farine, and her creations span a world of taste. Sandbox's Japanese sweet bread, or kashi pan, is a lightly sweet brioche filled with the likes of melon or yuzu marmalade with sage. Or, in its savory form, it comes challah-like with negi-miso, curry or red bean paste filling. Daily special sandwiches

often express a fusion of cuisines: Thai chicken croque-monsieur; an apple, smoked gouda, and rosemary spread over fresh baguette, or a teriyaki chicken rice burger with sticky rice as bun. A Zen-like experience with Parisian spirit.
833 Cortland, SF. (415) 642-8580
www.sandboxbakerysf.com

BEST HOT HAKKA
Not familiar with Hakka cuisine, the regional cooking style of Southeast China that's got food bloggers in a hot lather? It's time you became acquainted. Head to the Outer Richmond and get schooled

> "Irving Street Pizza has the best pizza! It makes me feel like I'm riding dinosaurs with jet packs when I pick up a slice."
>
> Sonya, Sunset

at **Hakka Restaurant**. Hakka looks like any other nearby Chinese joint, but there's a legitimate pride in the service and an uncommon freshness to the food. Dishes include salt-baked chicken, fried strips of pumpkin coated in salted egg, crisp Chinese broccoli sautéed in rice wine, and ngiong tew foo, or stuffed tofu cubes. Kiu nyuk, a beloved Hakka dish, has two known versions, the more common served here: fatty pork belly layered over preserved mustard greens and mushrooms in a dark and complexly herbal sugar-soy sauce. Slice through layers of skin and fat to the tender anise-scented meat and you'll be hooked on Hakka.
4401-A Cabrillo, SF. (415) 876-6898

BEST FRIENDLY YEMENI
This spring, on the western edge of the Tenderloin, a humble little restaurant opened quietly: **Yemeni's**. Owner Ali Abu Baker and his staff

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Food and Drink CONT>>

convey a warmth almost equal to that of the piping Yemeni bread coming from the oven (useful for sopping up hummus with strip steak). Shawerma, baba ganoush, tabbouleh, and other Middle Eastern favorites are available. But the real draws are traditional Yemeni dishes like salteh, the country's national dish: a meat stew topped with hilbeh — a tomato-based, chutney-like dip spiced with fenugreek, garlic, and cardamom — and zhug/sahaweq, a hot pepper sauce. Sip Yemeni coffee accented with a spice mix called hawayij. Baker shares his passion for his native country's food at prices that encourage feasting for mere dollars. Stop into neighboring Queen of Sheba market for Middle Eastern groceries to complete your culinary journey.
1098 Sutter, SF. (415) 441-8832
www.yemenirestaurant.com

BEST SLAMMIN' KOREAN STEAK SANDWICH

Rhea's Deli is an unassuming, even demure, counter hidden inside a Mission District convenience store. But then the bad-ass $8 Korean steak sandwiches come out and the gloves come off. You'll be fighting for — or at least gladly waiting up to 30 minutes in line for — a chance to sink your teeth into one of these babies. (Smart steakers call ahead and preorder). Once you've scored, it's tempting to wolf down this mountain of tender, spicy Korean beef, shredded cabbage, red onions, and cheddar cheese on a crunchy baguette. Avoid this animal urge and take it slow, allowing the pleasure to last. Rhea's offers an array of other savory lunchables as well, from a katsu sandwich with pork loin fried in Japanese breadcrumbs to a 19 Street sandwich with roast beef, Vermont cheddar, pepper jack, avocado, and pickled jalapenos. But, you know, steak.
800 Valencia, SF. (415) 282-5255

BEST BEELZEBUB BREW

The appropriately named Coffee Bar offers a double whammy of appeal: it occupies an impeccably cool industrial-looking space for laptop workaholics and serves some truly eye-opening coffee. Mr. Espresso coffee beans provide the kick in bracing espressos and cappuccinos; an ultra-expensive, ultra-shiny Clover machine dispenses perfect single cups. Unlike chain-like offerings of watered-down, cloyingly sweet mochas and "specialty" coffees, the additional drink menu items here are crafted with punch. Vietnamese or Havana coffees (conveniently hot or iced for those variable summer days) are sure things. But our taste buds go up in

Best Culinary Mutiple Personality: Red Crawfish | GUARDIAN PHOTO BY BEN HOPFER

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flames for **Coffee Bar's El Diablo**. A devilishly smooth mix of espresso, chipotle-infused milk, and Guittard chocolate, the robust brew marries a hint of cocoa sweetness to subtle heat. Yes, we're probably going to hell for worshipping El Diablo. But at least we'll be awake for it.
1890 Bryant, SF. (415) 551-8100
www.coffeebar-usa.com

BEST OCCASIONAL KANGABURGER

Trek to a mellow stretch of Clement Street and enter the "five-star dive" environs of **Tee Off Bar & Grill**. You might assume it's all right for a beer and little else — but you'd be wrong. The place is comfortably worn, sure. But regulars and staff soon feel like old friends, often sharing one of their spare Bronx Bombers (fiery BBQ chicken wings) or beer-battered mushrooms. The next surprise comes when you exit the dim interior to a sunny back patio with picnic tables and random paraphernalia from popular pirate parties (ask your bartender). A chalkboard reveals weekend specials. Wait! Is that a $20 kangaroo burger? After you've balked at the price, you can't pass up this adventurous challenge, especially when the burger is plumped up with fried onions and kiwi relish. Make sure you call ahead, since Tee Off only serves it on occasional weekends and until supplies run out. If the roo's already hopped, other worthy eats like ostrich burgers or Paul's Crafty mac 'n' cheese, a four-cheese blend with pancetta blessed by Guy Fieri himself, will satisfy.
3129 Clement, SF. (415) 752-5439
www.teeoffbarandgrill.com

BEST DEVILED DELIGHT

When the rustic-chic Marlowe first opened, it offered a seemingly straightforward menu of bistro staples like steak frites and cheesy cauliflower gratin that seemed anticlimactic. But chef Jennifer Puccio's faith in the classics and elegant marshaling of simple ingredients soon paid off: raves began to roll in — especially for the jaw-widening burger loaded with caramelized onions, horseradish aioli, and bacon. But the burger isn't the only star on the lunch menu. Diving into **Marlowe's deviled egg sandwich** is not settling for second best. Simple in presentation, it's one of the finest egg sandwiches out there, an open-faced beauty with a layer of crisp, meaty bacon, aged provolone, pickled chilis, and horseradish aioli on the side (perfect for accompanying fries). Order addictive brussels sprout chips and let the office know you won't be back for a while. The only proper way to wrap up such a heartwarming lunch is to take a nap.
330 Townsend, SF. (415) 974-5599
www.marlowesf.com

BEST SOUS-VIDE SOUS-BUDGET

One expects to shell out a pretty penny to partake of gourmet cooking techniques like *sous-vide*, or vacuum-packed slow cooking. But Berkeley's **eVe** defies such expectations with a palate-tickling, surprisingly filling two-course prix fixe menu for $25 that includes several *sous-vide* items. The set menu offerings change often (additional items are steadfastly priced at $11 each), but husband-and-wife chef team Christopher and Veronica Laramie always keep it lively, highlighting the tastes of Veronica's native Peru. Grilled squid ink risotto gets a tart kick from candied kumquats and yuzu. Diver scallops are brightened by lime leaf, edamame, mint, and delicate salmon roe. A sizable piece of fatty-licious pork belly pairs with a warm watermelon radish, chive flower, and a paper-thin slice of candied Buddha's hand. Dessert might be goat brie sweetened with apricot, red wine, and a welcome contrast of shallots and flax seeds. In other words, world-class gastronomie d'avant-garde priced to appeal to ramen-weary students.
1960 University, Berk. (510) 868-0735, www.eve-berkeley.com

BEST BAR BRUNCH WITH BUNNY CHAO

It is with humor and reverence that one dines at **Three Papayas**, a pop-up Sunday brunch from 12 p.m.-4 p.m. at Doc's Clock bar. Mismatched Michael Jackson placemats abound, and Bibles and porn-laced comic books act as menu-holders. Creative chef Ta-Wei Lin emphasizes fresh and funky Vietnamese and Thai flavors. His menu of four or five changing items per week (everything is $8) might include pan-fried rabbit, Filipino sisig, chicken or vegan Vietnamese crepes, or viet banh canh with clams and coconut sauce. If it's available, hop on the unusual Bunny Chao, a hollowed-out loaf of bread — filling piled neatly on the side — overflowing with green lentils, veggies, and cardamom pods. Chef Lin garnishes with seasonal fruits like figs, passion fruit, and, of course, papayas, making his plates fun to behold, but even better to eat. In the lovably grungy Doc's setting, pair your food with a peppery bloody mary, and join your fellow dive-tastic brunchers in a round of hallelujahs.
2575 Mission, SF. (415) 824-3627
www.docsclock.com

BEST BIG EASY OVER EASY

Morning at **Brenda's French Soul Food**: where to start? Grillades and grits or crawfish beignets? Fried shrimp po'boy or sloppy Josephine? Eggs and andouille? *Oui, Oui*! This wee spot on Polk Street — open for breakfast, brunch, and lunch — is a showcase of the strikingly huge flavors of New Orleans-style French and Creole cuisines. The portions are big, the

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LOCAL HERO
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"When I paint, I focus completely on what I'm doing and everything else fades."

49ER AND ARTIST

Freshly minted Pro Bowl superstar Vernon Davis has shown immense prowess on the football field since being drafted by the San Francisco 49ers in 2006. His career is on the upswing, and last season he tied the NFL all-time record for most touchdowns as a tight end. Davis' success is the product of natural talent combined with drive and vision. He grew up in inner-city Washington, D.C., where a wise grandmother helped him dodge the environment's potential pitfalls.

That same talent, drive, and vision extend beyond the goal posts into more esoteric realms. He's an avid painter and seeks to be a role model for kids who might be afraid to explore their creativity. Earlier this year he launched the Vernon Davis Scholarship Fund, which will benefit a deserving Bay Area art student who would otherwise not be able to afford college. "I want to keep encouraging kids, especially in the inner city, to stay on track and pursue their dreams." SFBG

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Food and Drink CONT>>

atmosphere strikes a note between quaint and cosmopolitan, and wonderfully named Filipino-Creole chef (and New Orleans native) Brenda Buenviaje keeps the flavor flowing. The only drawback, besides having to brave the tiny curbside riots to get in, is having to choose among the many dreamy menu items on offer. Make sure, however, to wash down Brenda's must-try gumbo with a glass of sweet watermelon iced tea before proceeding to the next steaming dish.
652 Polk, SF. (415) 345-8100
www.frenchsoulfood.com

BEST SLICE OF SPICE

From slammin' New Mexican resto Green Chile Kitchen comes **Chile Pies**, a low-key dessert café offering a spicy paradise of crave-inducing organic sweets. Seriously, if you thought Southwestern desserts were frozen in a sticky Bimbo-landia of saturated fats, this joint will blow your buds. Blue corn waffle cones, Straus Family soft-serve, Café Gratitude raw vegan ice cream, and fantastic floats (ginger ale with cardamom ice cream, anyone?) are just a few of the tasty treats at the Panhandle hot spot. The main draw is the rotating cast of daily pie specials, from the simple, like banana cream, to the sophisticated, like a tangy green chile apple with walnuts and red chile honey drizzle. Can't decide between a scoop of Three Twins Ice Cream or a slice of chocolate peanut butter pie? No problem, have both in the form of a frosty pie shake. And then there's Chile's piece de resistance: a classic Frito Pie, with organic Niman Ranch beef and Mexican red chile. You can have pie for dinner and dessert.
601 Baker, SF. (415) 614-9411
www.greenchilekitchen.com/chilepies

BEST GIANT FEAST FOR GIANTS FANS

Do thoughts of those wallet-demolishing $9 beers at AT&T Park leave you with a sinking feeling in your stomach? There's no need to get shut out of lunch or dinner plans around game time — hightail it to nearby **Hard Knox Café** for a true meal steal. Heaping soul food plates of smothered pork chops, Cajun meatloaf, barbecued spare ribs, and chicken and waffles, available at super-affordable prices, will last you all 54 outs and then some. Hard Knox's no-nonsense shrimp po'boys and hot link sandwiches to go will keep you doing the wave through extra innings at a fraction of ballpark prices. Better yet, order a perfectly battered pile of fried chicken, settle into one of the comfy booths, and watch the entire game on the flat screen. You can order round after round from Hard Knox's stellar selection of microbrews without missing a minute of the action.
2526 Third St., SF. (415) 648-3770
www.hardknoxcafe.com

BEST VIRGIN KICK

Don't know about you, but we periodically have these Jack Nicholson *Five Easy Pieces* chicken salad sandwich moments at oyster bars, where we want to say, "We'll have an order of oysters with lemon, cocktail sauce, and horseradish. Now hold the oysters — and bring me the lemon, cocktail sauce, and horseradish." That's why whenever we order a **virgin Mary at Rose Pistola** in North Beach, we get the spooky feeling that the bartenders *have read our mind*. The secret of their piquant housemade mix is, according to several staff members, secret (although one staffer did divulge that the bartenders add horseradish to the traditional tomato juice-Tabasco-Worcestershire combo). On top of this, Rose Pistola adds a green olive, pickled onion, and slice of lemon. You won't even miss the vodka — or the oysters.
532 Columbus, SF. (415) 399-0499
www.rosepistolasf.com

BEST MIX MASTER, WITH MARMALADE

A tucked away, speakeasy-like space on the second floor of the Crescent Hotel, minus the masses and snobbery: that's where you'll find the Burritt Room and its founder, master mixologist **Kevin Diedrich**. In the brick-walled space accented with sparkly chandeliers, black and red couches, and white piano, Diedrich shakes and stirs from a reasonably-sized menu of 18 rotating cocktails. He doesn't just craft the classics, though there are plenty of those. Diedrich also creates inventive new drinks — often featuring marmalade — like the sparkling Hitachino Sour with bourbon, orange marmalade, lemon, sugar, and orange bitters, topped with Hitachino White beer. His experience lies in some of the country's greatest bars from East to West. Diedrich sets a welcoming, unpretentious tone, has assembled a tight team of bartenders, and will take you on tasteful journeys nostalgic and new.
417 Stockton, SF. (415) 400-0500
www.crescentsf.com

BEST VEGAN CHARCUTERIE

Oh, if all our utopias were this dreamily delish. Ideally situated on green perch of reclaimed woodland on the edge of the UC Berkeley campus, halcyon eatery **Gather** offers seasonally minded, meticulously sourced food (complete with a sizable, possibly TMI volume, available to diners, detailing all providers and particulars). Vegetarians and vegans will be pleased to know that former Millennium sous chef Sean Baker has given much thought to its selections: the menu is 50 percent vegetarian, the star of which is undoubtedly the artisanal vegan "charcuterie" platter, which might include the most delicate tofu-skin tower or an Tuscan Rose eggplant with cashew "ricotta" and fennel-

Best Mix Master, with Marmalade: Kevin Diedrich of Burritt Room
GUARDIAN PHOTO BY BEN HOPFER

top pesto. Expect biodynamic and organic California wines, as well as piquant cocktails like the Secret Breakfast, composed of smoked peach scotch, bacon cello, spicy honey, and egg whites.
2200 Oxford, Berk. (510) 809-0400
www.gatherrestaurant.com

BEST BOW TO THE ANCIENT BACON GODS OF CATALUNYA

With or without you, we're set to indulge our love of refined yet pleasure-minded Catalan cooking — and the pitch-perfect **Contigo**, which translates as "with you," has us murmuring "Bon profit!" like a native of the land of Gaudi and Dali. The crowds have made this industrial-moderne Noe Valley restaurant the most popular spot in the hood for its wonderfully authentic Catalan tapas, artisanal Spanish and stateside hams, and fresh Catalan flatbreads — studded with wild nettles and porcinis (add a farm egg, anchovies, or Fatted Calf bacon). Aficionados of whole-critter eating won't shy away from the tripe and chorizo and chickpeas or the oxtail-stuffed piquillo peppers, all sourced from local organic providers. And everyone, including the finicky ankle-biters, will want the albondigas, or pork and ham meatballs. For here the pig reigns supreme, even on the cookie plate, which includes a piglet-shaped peanut butter and bacon number.
1320 Castro, SF. (415) 285-0250
www.contigosf.com

BEST ITTY BITTY TREATS FOR TWI-HARDS

Moist and addictive, this blood-red baby is so tiny it's totally OK to sink your fangs into a foursome and not break the Eternal Oath of Your Diet. Sure, his type wasn't born yesterday, but damn, the way he stares at you, his skinny jeans, that whipped topping that glistens in the sun ... the **Rich Red Velvet cupcake at Cups and Cakes Bakery**, named for its deep, vampire-luring color and smooth, timeless flavor is enough to blow our Team Edward minds. (Jacobites can tear into other flavors on offer, like Pretty Pretty Princess and Rainbow Bright. Just sayin'.) Did we mention the rich swirl of cream cheese and the crimson sprinkles? *Que bella!* Step into Jennifer Emerson's beckoning SoMa bakery and drool over the perfectly constructed cuppies therein. And don't worry, these beauties won't make you wait three sequels for your first bite.
451 Ninth St., SF. (415) 437-2877
www.cupsandcakesbakery.com

BEST AL FRESCO FEEL-GOOD

Nestled amid boxy-lofty tech startups and the frenetic energy of AT&T Park lies the small green courtyard wonderland of **Crossroads Cafe**. The sprightly enterprise is a component of the Delancey Street Foundation, one of the country's most innovative self-help organizations for the homeless, which has filled up this quiet little SoMa block with 370,000 square feet of housing, vocational schools, and the well-regarded Delancey Street Restaurant. But at Crossroads, all that is readily apparent of this commendable social enterprise is the distinct impression that the staff — composed mostly of Delancey residents learning workforce skills — wants to create the best darn cafe ever. Proceeds from the large menu go toward resident educa-

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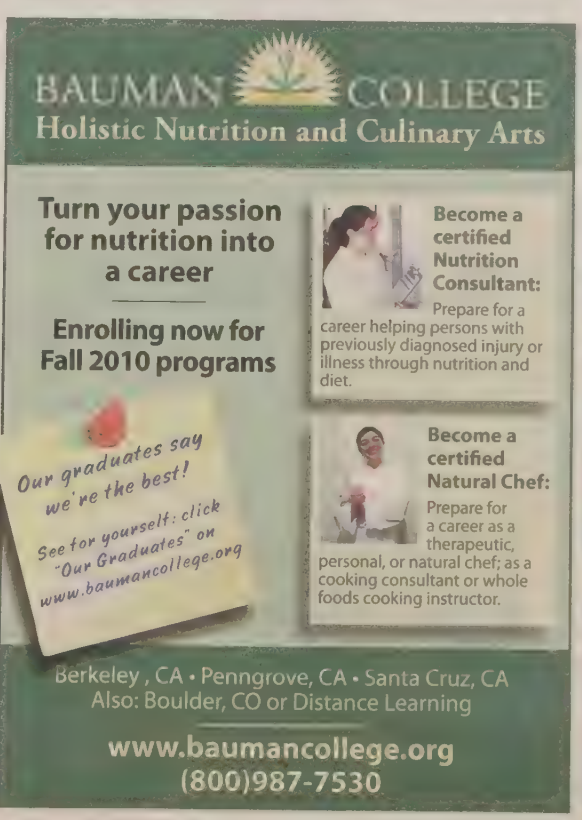

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tion and support. Pass through the small bookstore and grab Michael Chabon's new bestseller, order a housemade waffle or scoop of coconut ice cream, and settle into a seat on the garden patio for a little soul sunshine.
699 Delancey, SF. (415) 512-5111
www.delanceystreetfoundation.org

BEST MICROBREW MUTINEERS
You're always down for a 40 on the corner, a Bud on the stoop, or a PBR from your purse on Corona

> "Nabolom Bakery's ecstatic cinnamon twists tickle my taste buds and slap my tongue silly."
> Jeff, Temescal

Heights. But sometimes you want an actual beer. You know, the kind that doesn't taste like you wrung out a hipster's legwarmers in your mouth. You've considered venturing into the labyrinth of microbrews, but microbrew culture turns you off — kind of snobby, kind of midlife-crisis-y, definitely confusing. Relax and revolt: **Beer Revolution**, downtown Oakland's new grade-A beer store, will guide you into superlative suds with deep knowledge and just the right amount of edge. Staff connoisseurs offer tastes of recommended nectars, and a generous deck studded with picnic tables encourages kicking up your Doc Martens and glugging with abandon. Besides bottled bounty, there's a spirited band of ever-rotating, ever-satisfying selections on tap, like Meantime Scotch Ale, Caracole Nostradamus, and Alagash Black. Slip on a balaclava and pop a few caps at bland brewskis.
464 3rd St., Oakl. (510) 452-2337
www.beer-revolution.com

BEST SWEET BEWILDERMENT

You know those foodies (maybe you're one) — so up on the blogs and culinary porn rags they think they've tasted everything under the sun. Well, unless these epicurean explorers have logged some serious hours at **100% Sweet Dessert Café** in the Outer Richmond, they've surely left some sugary stones unturned. You simply will not find a menu that covers more enticing and bewildering acreage — at least 10 massive pages illustrated with a complex grid system that showcases a dazzling plethora of Asian desserts. Two you might want to sample: crystal rolls (clear rice paper sachets of sweet sugary goo and fresh mangos and strawberries) or a selection from the extensive jelly drink section of the menu. Sure, the many of the sample photos look like fairy tale versions of your saltwater aquarium's decorative fauna, but your fish seem to lead delicious lives, right?
2512 Clement, SF. (415) 221-1628

BEST TOTALLY WORTH-IT TOOTHACHE

When Jamie Kasselman hands you a box on your birthday, you better be stoked. Presentation is key. Before opening her candy store in the Marina, she was famous for her impeccable flair for arranging sweets on designer dishes — a clear inspiration for the achingly sweet décor at **Sweetdish**. Kasselman has it well stocked with classic candies, designer chocolates hailing from mouth-wateringly diverse locales ranging from Colombia to Ghana, and even some treats made closer to home. (Kasselman makes her own line of fantastic homemade flavored marshmallows. Want-want-want!) It can be difficult to decide between all the fanciful bulk candy options — we're naturally drawn to all the strawberry and lemon goodies — but the pretty salesgirls will feed you samples of from bags of irregulars behind the counter if you ask ... sweetly.
2144 Chestnut, SF. (415) 563-2144
www.thesweetdish.com

BEST VIRTUAL VEGGIE GURU

Vegetarian goddess **Heidi Swanson** started her essential 101 Cookbooks blog way back in the ancient year of 2003. It was a way to start putting her massive cookbook collection to use, combining her love of cooking with her interest in photography. The result is a comprehensive vegetarian go-to guide for making simple, delicious recipes infused with her own San Francisco flair. Swanson focuses on natural, whole foods and ingredients, frequenting SF's many farmers markets and organic foods stores. Then she tells readers how to whip up gems like chile blackberry syrup, Tuscan ribollita, and Rajasthani buttermilk curry. Each post walks you through her experiences with colorful photos and descriptions, substitution suggestions, and cooking tips. She's since published two meat-free meatspace cookbooks of her own — mere amuses bouches to her blog, which contains reams of virtual veggie lore. If you ever wondered what the name of that funny squash is or what to do with halloumi cheese, give her a click.
www.101cookbooks.com

Best Gooey Magic (No Elves Required): Anthony of Anthony's Cookies | GUARDIAN PHOTO BY BEN HOPFER

BEST PICKLED PLEASURE REVIVAL

Oh, pickled egg! Like your glass-jarred, vinegar-soaked, bar-top cousins the pig's foot and the giant gherkin, you have for years endured the tipsy sneers and simulated gagging of drinkers who never gave you a chance. Once the prince of any bar worth its salt, an easy snack for barflies and hofbrauistas alike, you slipped into ovoid obscurity. Now one bar has resurrected your sweet purple form by giving it a gourmet spin. Who'd pass up a go at **pickled quail eggs at the Alembic** in this age of adventurous eating? It just goes to show that if you repackage something, provide the proper ambience, and price something at $2, you can get someone to eat just about anything. Perfect with Alembic's saucy cocktails, you're a hit with highbrow tipplers. Now please put in a good word for your forgotten cousins.
1725 Haight, SF. (415) 666-0822
www.alembicbar.com

BEST CUTE CUBANO

Any eatery can slap some pulled pork and pickles on a panini and call it a Cuban sandwich. But true Cuban food connoisseurs venture to Market Street's upper climes to

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Food and Drink CONT>>

dig in at the tiny **Chan Chan Café Cubano**, a cute café by day that at night becomes a paradise of traditional dishes prepared with a gourmet touch. Entrees like *ropa vieja* and *pollo en hoya* are spectacular, but you may just pack them up to go after feasting your way through the well-priced tapas menu, which includes scrumptious *croquetas*, *bongos*, and *camarones criollos*. Plus, hello, a couple pitchers of sangria. With true Cuban flair — when the electricity goes out, as it sometimes does, a rewarding fever of culinary improvisation descends — and a laidback, handsome staff (yes, you may have to wait a bit for your order to come out of the one-stove kitchen, but you'll have plenty to look at), Chan Chan is indeed one of those "hidden gems."
4690 18th St., SF. (415) 864-4199

BEST DAMN CIOPPINO

Best cioppino? Them's fightin' words in San Francisco, where the thick, rich seafood stew originated. But we're serious. As certified fish freaks always eager for a fix of this blues-obliviating local delicacy, we've tried our fair share. And we can safely say that the home-style **cioppino at Sotto Mare** is the best. The key — besides the incredible tang of the smoky tomato broth and flawlessly fresh crab and fish chunks, scallops, mussels, and shrimp loaded within — is the atmosphere. Run by beloved, no-nonsense North Beach legend Gigi Fiorucci (don't squeeze that lemon wedge over your superbly grilled sand dabs or he'll reprimand you), Sotto Mare has a true family feel, a bustling business of diverse diners, and a haphazard décor that recalls San Francisco's ramshackle maritime past. When that steaming cioppino tureen, more than enough for two, is placed on the table by the gregarious waitstaff, you feel a delicious connection to SF history.
552 Green, SF. (415) 398-3181
www.sottomaresf.com

BEST WIENERAMA

Never mind the ubiquitous fancy food carts or "third wave" coffee shops springing up in back alley garages — wieners were everywhere this past year. The explosion of gourmet and not-so-gourmet hot dog stands, joints, and full-on restaurants worked to balance all the epicurean exotica with some down-home comfort for those who were raised in a broke-down Chevy on televised baseball and McDonald's apple pies. All were worthy, but one in particular consistently heated our buns: **Showdogs**. This "emporium of sausages" keeps it classy with a spotless, tin-tiled interior and organic ingredients like wild boar and merguez, while still appealing to the everyday eater with a sporty sense of humor — we're suckers for the 49er, an all-beef Schwartz dog with house-made mustard, arugula, and, gasp, real sauerkraut. Add some barbecue fries and a Trumer Pils, and this hearty barker wins best in show.
1020 Market, SF. (415) 558-9560
www.showdogssf.com

BEST PLACE TO HORK DOWN HALF A BIRD

"I just ate half a chicken." That declaration is written on a Post-it stuck to a cubicle at the Guardian offices. The sticky piece of pastel paper has since been signed by other people besides the original chicken lover. What can you say? Unless you're the staunchest vegetarian, sometimes

Best Friendly Yemeni: Yemeni's
GUARDIAN PHOTO BY BEN HOPFER

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you just get the urge to eat half a chicken. Thai BarBQ in Potrero Hill was ideal for such moments, but it's flown the coop. Luckily, **Baby Blues BBQ** is here to satisfy those extra-intense and voracious aviary cravings. The restaurant's Marion County slow-smoked yard bird is served with a tangy barbeque sauce, but be sure to ask for the special Sassy Molassy molasses sauce. Add in corn bread and a choice of two fixins (sautéed okra, mac 'n' cheese and corn on the cob are some of the best options) and at a grand total of $15, you've got a deal only a fool would cluck-cluck at.
3149 Mission, SF. (415) 896-4250, www.babybluessf.com

"The El Tonayense taco truck never disappoints. I plan my days off around getting the taco al pastor."

Sung, Pacific Heights

BEST RAMEN PHENOMENON

We all know about chicken soup for the soul, how about delicious soup for the skin? Because its pork bone broth contains collagen and calcium, tonkotsu ramen has a rep as the genuinely edible version of a spa facial. There are some delicious tonkotsu ramens in Vancouver and San Francisco, but they're all matched and even superceded by the subtle one at **Asuka Ramen**, which manages to be rich and light within a single spoon-size sip. Ramen establishments have popped up all over the city in the last year or two, but Asuka steers clear of trendy trappings and delivers the low-priced goods. Tantanmen is Asuka's go-to dish, but if you don't confuse greasy strong flavor with deliciousness, its pork-and-egg laden tonkotsu is the type for you.
883 Bush, SF. (415) 567-3153

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Food and Drink CONT>>

BEST BEEF LULU

If life was little more than vodka and pastries (with no hangovers), we'd be in heaven, and the best place to shop would be **Royal Market & Bakery**. Even here on this mortal playground, Royal Market and Bakery is in the running for greatest shop. Why? Tasty marinated quail, excellent caviar, homemade hummus, fresh fruit, savory eggplant rolls with cheese, dark Russian chocolates, Turkish coffee, a tremendous selection of chilled vodkas and other liquor, an overflowing nook of flaky pastries, and last but not least, Beef Lulu. A special seasoned dish of ground meat, Beef Lulu is as enjoyable as its name is funny. At a time when the city is being overrun by generic chain supermarkets, Royal makes the case for individuality devoted to regional cuisine. And the prices are better, too. 5335 Geary, SF. (415) 221-5550

BEST BASKET OF UBE

On a busy street south of San Francisco lies a little land of leavened love where all your Filipino baked goods needs are met with a sweet smile and an even sweeter pandecoco. We won't require 20 questions to tell you where: the place is **Bread Basket**, a starkly outfitted bakery famed for its thrillas from Manila. The neighborhood favorite is BB's pandesal, swiped fresh out of the ovens while the packs of the bun-like lovelies are still aromatically steamy. Need to bring home a little something for dessert? The joint has cornered the market on delights made from the meat of the ube, or purple yam, which Bread Basket magically transforms into the bun fillings and feathery, marzipan-like candies that sit alongside its more familiar cookies and breads. 7099 Mission, Daly City. (650) 994-7741 www.breadbasketca.com

BEST QUE SYRAH, HURRAH

Tucked in a sliver of a space in the West Portal commercial strip is the tantalizing **Que Syrah** wine bar, founded and presided over with skill and affection by the team of Stephanie and Keith McCardell. Que Syrah is the perfect place to savor a glass of wine in a friendly neighborhood setting: quiet, unpretentious, and specializing in unusual wines from small production wineries from all over the world. Stephanie and Keith serve by the glass or in intriguing flights and provide expert notes about

the wine, the winemakers, and the regions involved. Every Thursday night, an array of delectable tapas enliven the tastings — chef Val Desuyo takes inspiration from his regular trips to the restaurants of Barcelona. Plus: quarterly paella parties! Seafood paella and a glass from Penedès? *Sì, sì!*
230 West Portal Ave., SF. (415) 731-7000
www.quesyrahsf.com

> "Lucca needs a shout-out as the best deli in SF! The fresh meats, homemade ravioli and pasta, specialty Italian foods: yum yum."
>
> Stephanie, the Mission

BEST LOBSTER ROLLIN'

Whatever queasy misgivings you may harbor about the phrase "mobile seafood shack" will instantly be dispelled once you've palmed (or tried to palm) a hefty Maine lobster roll from **Sam's Chowdermobile**. We were turned on to this tender, brimming-over prize when one of our East Coast-native amigos texted "lobster roll = real deal" from Golden Gate Park, where you can find the edible aquarium on wheels most weekends. So we tried one for ourselves, and yep. Great lobster rolls at a reasonable price are surprisingly hard to come by 'round these Left Coast parts — we're crabby that way. Luckily Sam's, the mobile unit of Half Moon Bay resto Sam's Chowder House delivers the goods. (The roll proper is enough to feed two — order a single-serving "shortie" if you want one all to yourself.) Prep yourself for crustacean heaven with a bowl of Sam's New England chowder and a side of Old Bay fries for a true Eastern experience.
www.samschowdermobile.com SFBG

LOCAL HERO
ERICA McMATH SHEPPARD

"I love the Youth Speaks office. It doesn't matter what I'm wearing or what I look like there."

POET AND PERFORMER

Odds were against Erica McMath Sheppard to be onstage at the Warfield this past March receiving thunderous applause from a sold-out crowd. But as McMath Sheppard's powerful championship Youth Speaks Teen Poetry Slam spoken word performance put it, "I been helping myself my whole damn life ." Two things were clear under those bright lights: this woman has a story to tell, and the world's going to hear it — no matter a difficult childhood, a disastrous trek through the foster care system, and eventual emancipation from her guardians at age 16.

In addition to her poetry laurels and longtime involvement with the Youth Speaks arts program, the Class of '10 Leadership High graduate was senior class president, involved in the Black Student Union, and active in a slew of other extracurriculars — a record that earned her admission to Dillard University in New Orleans this fall. Does she consider herself a role model? "I'm not trying to be the voice for foster girls around the world," she says. "But this is my dream." SFBG

GUARDIAN PHOTO BY KEENEY AND LAW PHOTOGRAPHY

ARTS AND NIGHTLIFE

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www.redvicmoviehouse.com

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www.ocdance.com

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www.ybca.org

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BEST OF THE BAY 2010: EDITORS PICKS

ARTS AND NIGHTLIFE

Best Some Thing: Glamamore, Downey Friend, and Vivvyanne Forevermore of Some Thing

BEST DANCE FLOOR TRANSCENDENCE

Diehard club kids always call their favorite club "church" — there's something sacred and comforting about returning to a certain dance floor regularly to commune with your friends and the music. But what if your favorite club really is a church? Not a former church like New York's storied Limelight — an actual frickin' functioning Episcopal cathedral? The Young Rev. Bertie Pearson, a staple of the SF club scene, made it his mission to transform Grace Cathedral into one of the hottest club venues in town with his monthly **EpiscoDisco** extravaganzas. Live bands, underground DJs, and thought-provoking art installations curated by Paradise Now draw an eclectic, forwardly-dressed crowd and fill the incredible, cavernous location with evening energy and the sounds of now. Pearson's not out to convert anyone — "We just want to open up this amazing space and have a great party," he tells us — but you'll get lifted by EpiscoDisco's transcendent spirit all the same.

Third Fridays, 7 p.m.–10 p.m., free
Grace Cathedral, 1100 California, SF
www.episcodisco.com

BEST WHORE FOR SATAN

If you go to local metal shows, you know **Shawn Phillips**. He's the tall guy with the long ponytail, inevitably found either helping a band load its gear in or out of the venue or standing on the sidewalk by the exit, handing out flyers containing one or more examples of bands who use that totally illegible, totally evil font for their logos. Phillips means business, but he's also good-natured enough to name his apparently one-man promo machine Whore for Satan Productions. Recent shows under the Whore for Satan banner have included big names like Pentagram and Saint Vitus at the DNA Lounge, as well as showcases for smaller, up-and-coming outfits like Zoroaster at Thee Parkside. This is a guy who really loves metal. And that's why we love him. And Satan.

www.myspace.com/whoreforsatan

BEST POLKA IN YOUR PUNKY PANTS

Ein, zwei, drei, polka! Don your lederhosen, grab your *freundin*, and get ready to party with **Polkacide**. This beloved San Francisco punk rock polka band is 25 years young, and still as gloriously frenetic as a baby gorilla on an overdose of moonpies. Whatever you call it — *polka, pulka, galop* — Polkacide offers a crash course on accordion- and horn-driven global dance sounds. Its peppy repertoire includes such perennial crowd-pleasers as the "Chicken Dance," the "Pennsylvania Polka," and the "Weiner Dog Polka," along with favorites from afar such as *"Frailich," "Viva Seguin," and* "Zosia." A typical Polkacide show attracts an esoteric consortium of punkers, polkers, porn clowns, damsels, and dandies — colliding cheerfully like so many carnival bumper cars on the dance floor. Punk rock and polka: two great tastes that taste great together. With beer.

www.polkacide.com

BEST REASON TO DITCH NETFLIX

Spending another Saturday evening stuck in front of your ipadkindle-plasmascreentivo-thing? Not if **Artist's Television Access** can help it. A stronghold of experimental film, outsider art, and the musical underground for 26 years, the ATA

space has weathered many an economic storm to bring rabble-rousing, cerebral cortex-corrupting, and ocular spectaculars to the huddled masses (the ones with their feet up on the backs of the chairs and brown paper bags clutched in their hands). Modern-day homesteaders, historians, pranksters, activists, indie bands, burners, bicyclists, brainiacs, cosmonauts, communists, and absurdists are all given their moments to shine on the screen and off it, while cheap booze, obscure tunes, and easy camaraderie flow. Also host to some of the most intriguing window art and festival lineups in town, the occasional "Neighborhood Public Radio" project, a weekly cable access show, and open-submission screenings, ATA is an invaluable community resource in every possible way.
992 Valencia, SF. (415) 824-3890
www.atasite.org

> "Molotov's bar: no better place to be kidnapped."
>
> Joey, Lower Haight

BEST *PODER* TO THE PEOPLE

In a city full of high-minded "concept bands" that often fall flat when it comes to actual musicianship, **La Plebe**, a tightly-knit ensemble playing the sickest, slickest ska-punk around, is a sonic gem. That alone would elicit major props from *nosotros*, but what we also love about La Plebe are its unapologetically leftist leanings. Singing multilingual songs about border politics, class, race, and general injustice with sharply infectious rhythm, humor, and panache, the Plebes make anarchy fun again. Sweaty, happy chaos always reigns supreme at their shows. One of the hardest working ska bands in town, you can catch La Plebe several times a month in various Bay venues, not to mention Eastern Europe and Mexico. Oh yes, it's still possible to rock with conscience and not suck.
www.laplebe.com

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BEST OF THE BAY 2010

Arts and Nightlife

CONT>>

BEST CLUB FOR THE FEINT AT HEART

In a building slathered with blue and white graphic prints of feints and lunges, one hardly expects to find nuanced classes in an antique art. But that's exactly what's going down at the **Halberstadt Fencer's Club**, where young épée-wielding athletes go from portly to Porthos, zero to Zorro ... We could go on, but the fact of the matter is that at Halberstadt, fencing is practiced by those who hunger for more than just a postmodern post as a swashbuckling musketeer. Here, fencing is an art prized for its purity of form, noble vigor, and character building qualities. Children and adults alike spar on hardwood floors beneath vintage posters from competitions past, and the truly sabre-riffic have been known to rise to the ranks of national champs, following in the footwork of club founder, Olympian Hans Halberstadt.

621 South Van Ness, SF. (415) 863-3838
www.halberstadtfc.com

> "My favorite person is the crazy fanatic religious guy in Union Square. He hates 'sinners' but he'll still tip his hat to a pretty lady."

BEST UNDERCOVER RUM RUNNERS

Bring on the kitschy maritime decor behind a nondescript storefront's tinted windows. Add plentiful fruity (but never too sweet) cocktails, featuring a stellar, connoisseur's-dream

rum selection served by some of the city's best bartenders. Now cue up the exotic music in this enchanting three-level spot. It's tiki heaven! It's **Smuggler's Cove**, brought to us by tiki mastermind — yes, they exist — Martin Cate. The hype was heavy surrounding its December opening and waits to get in can still be painful at certain hours. But the Cove rules a unique San Francisco niche, offering refinement, experience, and an exquisite dedication to Polynesian, Caribbean, and Cuban traditions. Cocktail-wise, our love rummeth over for the Chadburn, a complex mix of private reserve rum, tawny port, pear liqueur, and a dash of chocolate mole bitters. Or dive into the Cove's banana daiquiri, the best you'll ever sip. Watch out, though — it'll sneak up on you.
650 Gough, SF. (415) 869-1900
www.smugglerscovesf.com

BEST SKY-HIGH IRIE

Sometimes a weekend comes along that doesn't quite cut it. But if your two days off didn't cushion the blow of Monday sufficiently, why worry? You have the sky-high **Skylarking** joint to smooth away the rough edges. For years, this DJ-run reggae party has been rocking Skylark's sleeker version of a Mission bar on the other side of Sunday. Beatnok and Mr. Lucky's jams always seem to attract a diverse, happy crowd eager to extend their irie past Sunday. Stoners and stylists, hipsters and hoppers — everyone loves Jah love, right? At least, that's the case here, where if you can part the clouds of smoke, you'll find a bangin' dance floor that lasts well into the night. And, oh hi, free.
Mondays, 10 p.m.–2 a.m., free. 3089 16th St., SF. (415) 621-9294
www.skylarkbar.com

BEST PRESS PLAY

Throwing your iPod on shuffle in your living room might get the party started, but it's not exactly an art. Wu-Tang Clan transitioning to Joan Baez, then fading into live AC/DC? That's not a statement: that's just random (and a bit nausea-inducing). When it comes to reviving the comfy character and craft of old-school cassette mix culture, the **San Francisco Mixtape Society** has its finger firmly pressed on "play." Once every three months, Mixtape Society members meet at the Make-Out Room to trade lovingly sequenced tapes, CDs, or MP3 collections which combine a lovelorn eighth-grader's DIY work ethic with the philosophy of Nick Hornby's *High Fidelity*. Mixtapes

CONTINUES ON PAGE 56 >>

WHAT HAPPENED INSIDE ROOM 17A?

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Arts and Nightlife

CONT>>

are submitted beforehand for judging in multiple categories, compilations are swapped in a spirited raffle (you must bring one of your own to leave with someone else's), and brainy themes sweeten the reels. A Mixtape night is equal parts social outing and music seminar for those who view handwritten playlists as transmissions from the heart.
www.sfmixtapesociety.com

BEST STREET-LEVEL KARAOKE

Karaoke takes place in all kinds of settings with different crowds. You can rent a karaoke room with friends and party at Do Re Mi Music Studio. You can enjoy live accompaniment on saxophone at the Bar on Church's Karaoke Mondays. You can steel yourself and step to the mic in between the polished regulars at the Mint. But there's only one place that takes karaoke to the streets: **Nap's 3**. The microphone at this little bar is right by the front door, and the front door opens onto a well-traveled block of Mission Street, which means you're going to serenade passersby as well as regulars with your version of "Sweet Child o' Mine" or "Gypsy." Nap's 3's block of the Mission hasn't been hipsterized to death yet, and the Nap's crowd keeps it fast and loose — so don't stay uptight and out of sight (unless you're attempting to channel Stevie Wonder).
3152 Mission, SF. (415) 648-1226

BEST IRON MAIDENS IN LEGWARMERS

When it comes to aerobics, it's no secret that Jane Fonda was the original twisted sister. So why not soundtrack her 1980s-defining workout with some classic hair metal? Workout instructor Donnelle Malnick and the folks at Workshop have slipped on their unitards and hopped aboard that crazy train already, offering a weekly **Heavy Metal Aerobics** class that will rock you like a hurricane (and incorporates yoga and weight-training). Your heart couldn't beat any faster if you just ran out of the cellar with your balls to the wall. After you're slippery when wet, check out Workshop's myriad other class offerings, from beginning screen-printing to *Mad Men*-style mixology. Headed by Indie Mart pioneer Kelly Malone, the collective is cooler than the ace of spades in Panama.
Tuesdays, 7 p.m., $10. 1798 McAllister, SF. 415-874-9186, www.workshopsf.org

BEST BAY BRAWLER

Sporting a deadly mixture of beauty and beast, boxing phenomenon **Ana "The Hurricane" Julaton** has punched her way to becoming the Bay Area's most notable rising sports star. Julaton has blazed a wide trail in the last year for women's boxing, making her name and standing her ground in a field more commonly celebrated for its gloved males. Employing a precision technique with dazzling speed, Julaton has attained two championship belts in unprecedented time. Her Filipino background matched with her knockout prowess has caused many to compare her to fellow countryman and boxing superstar Manny Pacquaio. Shaping up to be America's first female boxing gold medallist in the next Olympics, Julaton's future is bright — even as she delivers lights out.
www.teamjulaton.us

BEST MIDWESTERN FLASHBACK

It's a Wisconsin dive bar to a tee: the draft beer (including Moose Drool) is plentiful and served in Mason jars, antlers and animal heads adorn the wood-paneled walls, and the pool table always has a line of quarters on it. Stepping inside is a bittersweet moment for any Minnesota or Dakota transplant, immediately calling up memories of string cheese, snow days, and grandma's favorite flannel. But the true sign of **Bloodhound**'s Middle America roots: *Big Buck Hunter*, the video game that transports you and your digital rifle back to the homeland for a simulated hunt. While the fashion may be a bit more, er, refined than Bloodhound's actual Midwest counterparts — no blaze orange or Carhartt to be found here — there's a laid-back attitude and post-ironic appreciation for the backcountry. Oh, and your dog is welcome to join you for a frosty one, don't ya know.
1145 Folsom, SF. (415) 863-2840
www.bloodhoundsf.com

Best Techno Hula: Na Lei Hulu I Ka Weki

BEST SUNSET RISING STAR

Sonny Smith once seemed like the most avid self-promoter in town, sending out about a jillion copies of his 2002 CD, *This Is My Story, This Is My Song* and pestering music writers about town to sing his praises. But instead of evaporating with the hype, Smith has followed through on the promise of his early work, casting his creative nets far and wide: in film, theater, journalism, and visual art (this year, Smith exhibited "100 Records," which combined imaginary band bios and songs with 100 artists' images). Maybe Smith just needed to get some distance from his beloved Mission — now that he's moved to the Sunset, he appears to have hit his stride with a genuinely fabulous, rotating, rock 'n' roll supergroup, Sonny and the Sunsets, which includes such local lights as Kelley Stoltz, John Dwyer, Tim Cohen, and Tahlia Harbour. (Pitchfork raved about S&S 2010 debut, *Tomorrow Is*

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COMEDY TALKS
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Arts and Nightlife

CONT>>

Alright). Now, Smith looks likely to become the smash sensation he was always meant to be. No hype.
www.myspace.com/sonnythesunsets

BEST CHIRPS OFF THE NOISE BLOCK

Clipd Beaks can't decide if it's local or not. Since the combo relocated from the Midwest, members have flitted south to warmer climes in L.A., then back. Are they the best of California — or simply sonic channelers of the general zeitgeist? Regardless, the trio managed to get it together long enough to fly in this year's damn intriguing, daring long-player, *To Realize* — a post-punk drone monkey of a recording that enjoys smashing its sonic bananas into the sidewalk, or grinding bassy bottom-feeder figures against a cage of clattering, thrumming reverb damage. Clipd Beaks sound like a band caught in the same glittered labyrinth as global-dance electronic-folk experimentalists Gang Gang Dance and Psychic Ills. All concerned seem like wide, avid listeners, driven by the wantonly diffuse reinterpretations of the ghostly funk they hear in their heads.
www.myspace.com/clipdbeaks

BEST HAPKIDO HEROES

Don't let the small size of its Ocean Avenue storefront location fool you: the **Korean Martial Arts Center** houses some mighty big kicks. Leading one of the best known and most successful training schools in Northern California, Grandmaster M. W. Jung and his staff have trained some of the top martial artists in the country — two of his current students have a shot at making the U.S. Olympic team. The center specializes in judo, taekwondo, and, especially, hapkido, the noble Korean fighting practice that fuses a variety of skill styles. Beginners and youngsters are welcome. Even if you can barely make a fist, you get to work with Jung and the other top-ranked instructors. Traditional training, including weapon combat and tai chi, emphasizes respect and humility. Still, the grandmaster's got a chokehold on the wisecracks: while he makes the kids work hard, he also makes them laugh.
1414 Ocean, SF. (415) 333-1050
www.koreanmartialarts.com

Best Boogie-licious: The dance floor at Afrolicious | GUARDIAN PHOTO BY DAMIEN MILLER

BEST TRIBAL TRIBUTE

As much as we love Native American art, the spirit of the crafts are largely lost when displayed as alien relics in a museum's sterilizing vitrines. Not to mention the sticky subject of how items like burial jewelry and ceremonial objects have traditionally been "gathered" for such display. (As Yaqui-Mescalero-Apache-Zuni artist Michael Horse says, "I don't go into some of the cemeteries here and dig up Grandma because I want to see what pearls she wore.") This complex context is what led Horse and wife Pennie Opal Plant, both longtime Native activists, to create **Gathering Tribes** gallery. The work of contemporary indigenous craftspeople from all over the western hemisphere is showcased in a respectful manner, and a visit to the space might reveal Horse working on one of his beautiful ledger painting, in which he recreates scenes from our nation's past on historical

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Best *Poder* to the People: La Plebe | PHOTO BY NEIL MOTTERAM

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1412 Solano, Albany. (510) 528-9038
www.gatheringtribes.com

BEST GAZETTE REFRESH

In this glorious age of ubiquitous streams, shares, tweets, and TiVos, what does it mean to be truly "live"? To create a unique moment in the presence of others that cannot be repeated, duplicated, or fast-forwarded through to the naughty bits? **Pop Up Magazine** headily explores this notion while blowing good-natured raspberries at media old and new. For Pop Up Magazine is not a magazine at all. It's a regular installment of performance spots in which journalists, artists, historians, and innovators present short, informative segments of nonfiction works in progress that cover a broad range of subjects, using photography, video, live music, interviews, and more. This is a news feed of a different sort, ephemeral yet vital. No photos or broadcasts are allowed — each "magazine" is a unique experience shared between cutting-edge presenters and information-hungry crowd, preserved through memory alone. Even though the organizers promote Pop Up by word-of-mouth only, the events usually sell out in less than 30 minutes to drooling masses scanning their Facebook and Twitter threads. Guess we can't shake the virtual after all, but this is the kind of live worth refreshing for.
www.popupmagazine.com

BEST YOUNG PUNK EXPLOSION

It's hard out there for a punk. And harder still for the too young to vote crowd, not because of the voting part — duh — but because of the real dearth of all-ages music venues in the city. Despite efforts on the part of showcases such as Thee Parkside's Club Feral, Parlez Vous Rock and Roll at the Knockout, and Club Sandwich's online rundowns to fill that void, there just isn't a lot out there for the truly young, as opposed to the merely young at heart. Happily for youthful lovers of loud, the Latino-run **Sub-Mission** (formerly Balazo 18) books a plethora of all-ages shows, from monthly Maximum Rock and Sounds of Rebellion nights to heavy metal, local psychedelia, roots vinyl, art shows, activist benefit shows, and more. And while Sub-Mission's sonic sensibilities may skew toward the generally chaotic, its newly remodeled interior's low-rider aesthetic is *pura* Mission.
2183 Mission, SF. (415) 225-7227
www.sf-submission.com

BEST HOME TURFERS

Sorry New York and L.A. The Bay Area's where it's at in terms of street dance. If the hyphy movement wasn't enough to convince everyone that the YAY AREAAA reigns supreme, the newest generation of SF and Oakland turf dancers definitely will. Combining elements from hip-hop, popping, locking, gliding, and more, **turf dance** — turf stands for "taking up room on the floor" — is inspiring some versatile swagger. Because there is so much talent out there, it was impossible to choose just one "best" crew. Some of the most prominent names in the turf scene right now?

CONTINUES ON PAGE 62 >>

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TOSHI REAGON & BIGLOVELY
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DINKELSPIEL AUDITORIUM
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RENNIE HARRIS PUREMOVEMENT
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MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM
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BEST OF THE BAY 2010

LOCAL HERO
DONNA SACHET

"It's not always easy to live in San Francisco — but it sure is a hell of a lot of fun."

PERFORMER AND FUNDRAISER

A constant presence on the queer and charitable scenes for years, Donna Sachet will go to any lengths to call attention to worthy causes — including rappelling down 38 stories of the Grand Hyatt San Francisco to raise money for the Special Olympics.

As a performer and sparkling personality, Sachet MCs the popular Sunday's a Drag weekly brunch spectacular at Harry Denton's Starlight Room, hosts the live coverage of the Pride parade on television, writes a society column for The Bay Area Reporter, and attends pretty much every charitable event worth attending. (You can always spot her by her impeccably tailored red outfits — she is, after all, Scarlet Empress XXX of San Francisco's Imperial Court.) Her annual holiday Songs of the Season event and Pride Brunch fundraiser, along with her involvement with the Bare Chest Calendar benefiting the AIDS Emergency Fund, have raised thousands of needed dollars.

"You just have to do it," she tells us of her unflagging energy. "I love my community. But even if it's not particularly about your own community, we're all in this together." SFBG

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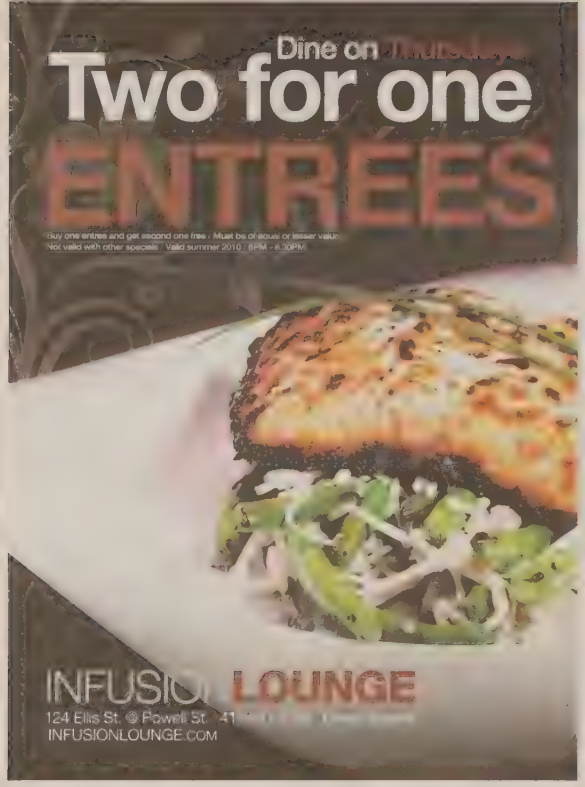

BEST OF THE BAY 2010

Arts and Nightlife

CONT>>

The dancers of Best Alive and Turf Feinz have achieved local and national recognition with the help of media companies like Get Wet Entertainment, which organizes and hosts dance battles, and Yak Films, which not only films battles but helps lead the media literacy and production program out of East Oakland's Youth Uprising. What better way to empower youth than through dance?

> "Fly on Divisadero is the best place for parents to get drinks. That they are completely 'kid tolerant' makes them my favorite place to go and be a bad parent."
>
> Collin
> Western Additio

BEST FLOCKING COCKTAILS

It's bar time — which is any time at all for you, really. But you want to hit somewhere that's stylish yet laid back, hip but not so hip you need to squeeze yourself into a $300 pair of gray acid wash peg-legs to feel accepted and completely devoid of the gay-straight segregation that plagues many of the city's watering holes. Spread your thirsty wings and heed the call of **Blackbird**, the new hotspot from up-and-coming bar impresario Shawn Vergara. Picky drinkers will shake their tail feathers in appreciation at Blackbird's impressively crafted cocktail menu (the bar even hand-infuses the fig-

balsamic vinegar used in its luscious, grapefruit-and-Aperol granita, for flock's sake). And socialites who get ruffled by stodgy categories can alight among fellow revelers of all orientational stripes. An impeccable wine list, sweet staff, and cutting-edge wall art round out this genial night-bird nest.
2124 Market, SF. (415) 503-0630
www.blackbirdbar.com

BEST DOORSLAMMIN' BLUES

The Saloon is a gritty neighborhood bar that serves up stiff drinks and release seven nights a week. Established in 1861, this ex-brothel — and the oldest bar in the city — allegedly survived the 1906 earthquake and ensuing fires because the firefighters made sure to always protect the working girls. Now, a century later, the saloon provides a place to drown your sorrows, minus the ill repute and a watchful madam's eye. The Saloon also has established itself as one of the city's classic live blues spots, with swinging bands and searing guitar licks sound tracking the North Beach night. When you're feeling like "one of the roughs," grab a shot and rock with the no-nonsense, freewheeling staff and crowd. The bands are on fire (especially honorary house band Johnny Nitro and the Doorslammers), dancing is always an option, and pretty soon daily troubles melt away like panhandlers' gold.
1232 Grant, SF. (415) 989-7666
www.sfblues.net/Saloon

BEST MONEY SHOT OF LOVE

When it comes to sex on film, few have been the reels that blur narrative romance and straight-up thrusting. But crossovers like *Behind the Green Door* and *Shortbus* have shown that sometimes filmgoers like a little carnal reality to their storyline and a little storyline with their money shot. In this, director Travis Mathews' gay cuddles-and-cocks film short feature ***I Want Your Love*** doesn't disappoint. (A full-length version arrives later this year.) Mathews has says his aim was to capture a candid honesty conspicuously absent in most porn. Realistic? Perhaps not in a conventional sense — but in an SF sense, yeah probably. Less a frenzied sex marathon between two larger-than-life, gym-stretched Olympians and more an intimate (and sometimes wince-inducing) recording of the playful fumblings of two fuzzy friends straight from Dolores Park central casting, *IWYL* presents the viewer with something beyond mere breathless five-minute satisfaction.
www.iwantyourlovethemovie.com

Best Eyes on the City: A photo by Caliber

BEST TECHNO HULA

There are three sides to the island dance magic of **Na Lei Hulu I Ka Weki**, the 25-year-old, internationally renowned hula school and performance troupe headed by powerhouse director Patrick Makuakane. There is the classic side emphasizing picture-postcard-perfect tiki dreams of pretty girls in grass skirts and Hawaiian-shirted men dancing sensuously beneath the moon to wistful ukulele hits of the 1950s. Then there's the kick-ass ancient cultural side, from a time before the arrival of stringed instruments and European settlers, set to heavy percussive beats and heart-pumping primal chants. And finally there's the contemporary — and controversial — side, where Na Lei Hulu's enthusiastic and graceful members throw everything you know about hula to the warm breezes, kicking up their bare heels to some good ol' techno and house hits. Superbly choreographed, and with enough cheeky humor to keep the audience gleefully engaged (yes, there are drag queens involved), this last side is its truly San Franciscan one. But when all three come together in the troupe's many local performances, the spirit of Hawaii comes alive.
www.naleihulu.org

BEST COMMUNITY CUT-UPS

Circus Bella wants to entertain you. Abigail Munn and David Hunt, the creators of this nonprofit circus, saw a gaping hole in the Bay Area's center ring back in 2008. Simply put, the area didn't have enough of them. The performance art had been overtaken by heady, Cirque du Soleil-type cerulean orbs and over-reaching narratives. As Hunt asks, "What the hell is wrong with just a ring?" So the two set out to create a circus troupe in the traditional, ring-centric mold, with juggling clowns, bendy contortionists, dazzling slack-wire and aerial acts, a live band, and those epauleted, spangly costumes we all remember from the tents of our youth. Moreover, they wanted the action accessible to all. Circus Bella can be seen wowing 'em wildly at street fairs and public parks, bringing laughter to children of all ages — most of the time for the low, low price of free.
www.circusbella.com

BEST SOME THING

After Trannyshack loosened its goo-spattered grip on the weekly alternative drag club scene, many amazing gender clown romps sprang up to claim its tawdry tiara. But only one combined taste-bending theatrics and questionable musical choices with a high sense of style and an eye toward reviving commedia dell'arte drag traditions. This was **Some Thing**, Friday nights at the

CONTINUES ON PAGE 65 >>

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Arts and Nightlife

CONT>>

Stud, which has drawn overflowing crowds with a taste for avant-garde performance and ribald humor. Hell, there are even some flawlessly performed non-ironic Broadway show tune numbers! Some Thing's proprietors, Glamamore, VivvyAnne Forevermore, and Downey Friend know exactly what they're doing: the numbers they book for their stage walk a fine line between trashy and tacky that just feels right for this drag moment. Better, they incorporate some of the Bay's best DJs into the party, insuring the DIY delirium lasts all night. Fridays, 10 p.m.–late. The Stud, 399 Ninth St., SF. www.studsf.com

> "The best? Sitting on the deck at Quinn's Lighthouse with a cold beverage of choice and blithely pondering nothing deep or significant at all."
>
> Josette, Oakland

BEST TWIT LIT

Publishing an entire novel on Twitter may seem a dubious achievement — even the author admits the medium is a "terrible way to read my book or any book" — but local scribe **Matt Stewart** did it first, so there. Stewart's bawdy debut, *The French Revolution*, which

CONTINUES ON PAGE 67 >>

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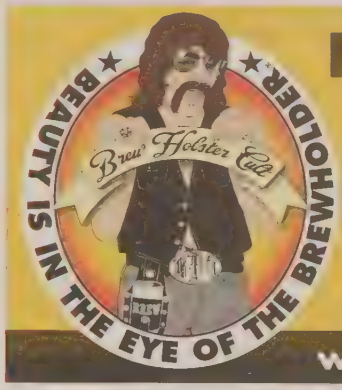

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Best Midwestern Flashback: Bloodhound

Arts and Nightlife

CONT>>

zanily reimagines the events of its title through the contemporary intergenerational exploits of pastry chef Esmerelda Van Twinkle and her twins Robespierre and Marat, started hitting the global feed on Bastille Day last year. Some 3,700 tweets and a ton of press coverage later, Stewart (whose background in PR certainly paid off) found himself in the midst of a full-on media phenomenon. For meatspace diehards, a paperback version of *The French Revolution* has just been released on Soft Skull Press. For everyone else, *mais oui*, there's a *Revolution*-ary phone app.
www.matt-stewart.com

BEST BASS-MENT

Fans of small-batch, big-boom nightlife, rejoice: **222 Hyde** will energize you almost every night of the week. When owner Emilio Giraubit took over the already bangin' location last year, he made sure to keep the intimate feel of the club while amping up the wattage. Navigating through the long, thin bar area upstairs can get tricky, especially with friendly bartenders and scrumptious pizzas to derail you. But once you descend to the tiny basement, all cares are blasted off by the superb Turbosound system and the stellar array of local and international DJs. 222's adventurous sonic palette embraces everything from Afrohouse to purple dubstep, post-minimal techno to UK Funky — it's a dance music connoisseur's dream come true. Experiencing the latest tracks while rubbing shoulders with other bass fanatics is the icing on 222's too-too-too fab cake.
222 Hyde, SF. (415) 345-8222
www.222hyde.com

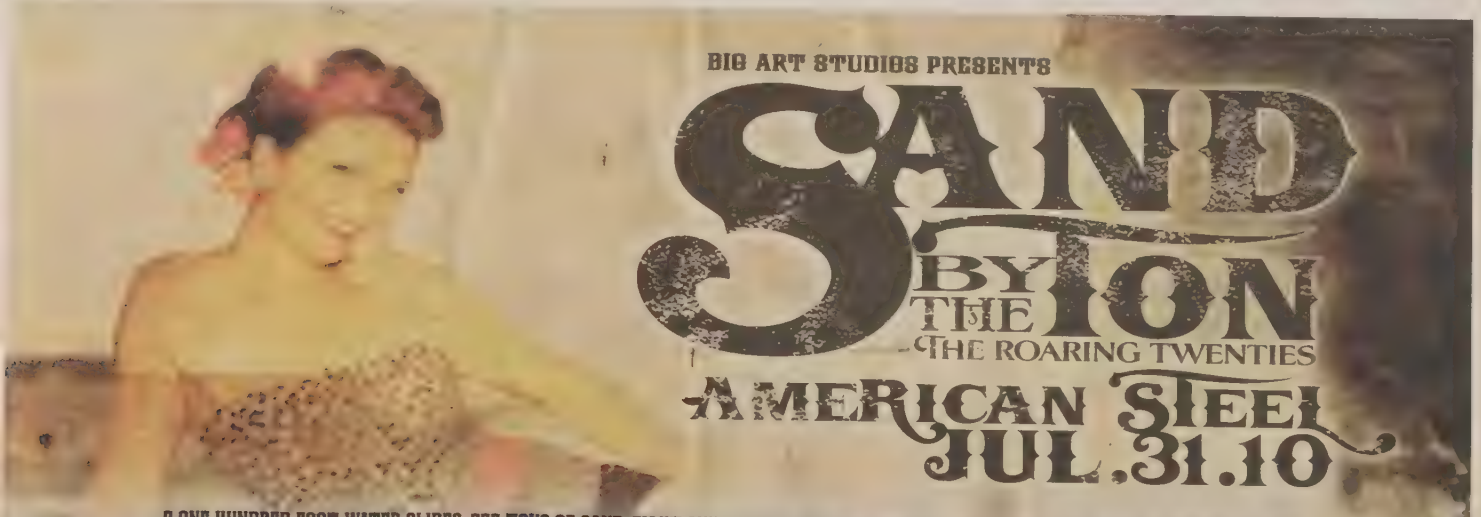
BEST EYES ON THE CITY

"As a group, we're not taking Hallmark postcard pictures. This is the San Francisco we live in. It's not a sunset at Crissy Field or the Painted Ladies," says Julie Michelle, one quarter of rapaciously keen-eyed photography collective **Caliber**. Michelle and equally excellent fellow lensers Stuart Dixon, Travis Jensen, and Troy Holden formed Caliber after admiring each other's work on Flickr, with the goal of "promoting photography in the city while acknowledging the present as well as the past, in whichever form it may show itself." The spine-tingling results, posted on Caliber's website encompass the amazing architectural and personal diversity of San Francisco — everything from candidly-snapped SoMa street kids flashing wadded up $1 bills to splendiferous sepia-toned upshots of the Shell Building's façade. Caliber also leads over-looked-detail-seeking photo walks of various city neighborhoods for amateurs of all skill levels and shutterbug meet-up nights to spread the light-sensor love.
www.calibersf.com

BEST BOOGIE-LICIOUS

For three years, DJs (and brothers) Señor Oz and Pleasuremaker have unleashed a weekly dose of get-down at the Elbo Room called **Afrolicious**. A beautiful crowd of global-eared dance fans

CONTINUES ON PAGE 68 >>



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Arts and Nightlife

CONT>>

rushes to the floor for the addictive Afrolicious sound — Afro-tropi-electro-funk-disco-house, the brothers call it, but we just call it soul-fantastic. Live percussion, bass, and horns often fill out the tunes, as Oz and Pleasuremaker's sets range far a wide, to Africa, South America, Asia, and beyond. It's an aural map of the world, combining the classic with the new to transcendent effect. James Brown to Zombie Disco Squad, Jali Bakary Conteh to Una Mas Trio, rollerskate jams to cumbia: the sonic sky miles rack up mighty quickly. "We're connecting the dots from funk, blues, and jazz to afrobeat, Latin, and newer electronic sounds," Oz says. "We run the gamut. We don't stand still." Neither do their eager fans.
Thursdays, 9:30 p.m., $7
Elbo Room, 647 Valencia, SF
www.afroliciousoriginal.blogspot.com

BEST (ACTUALLY) BUDDING ART GALLERY

With all the bad news about the economy, it's a testament to SF's deep love of art that new small galleries continue to sprout all over the city. One of the most vital ones is **Lake Gallery**, thanks to the curating by local musician and artist Dan Johnson Lake. And because it's next to and practically within the hydroponic wonderland that is Plant'it Earth, you can also have the earthy smells (and views) of at least some forms of greenery than make art appreciation a little livelier. There's a unique pleasure to art juxtaposed with nature in the heart of the city, and that's one of the pleasures you'll discover on a trip to the Lake, where the music of Dinosaur Jr. grew into a group show and local artists such as Ryan Coffey and Naoki Onodera have flowered and flourished.
661 Divisadero, SF. www.lakegallery.com

BEST MISSION MUSIC EVANGELISTS

Perhaps tapping in to the locavore zeitgeist, there has been a lot of recent attention paid to local, homegrown music. And what better scene to tune in to for organic-yet-edgy vibes than that of the small but ever-morphing Mission music revival? Right place, right time, perhaps, but the fledgling **Porto Franco Records** has stepped in to document — and more important — support a whole slew of local musicians and artists.

Best Club for the Feint at Heart: Halberstadt Fencer's Club

Torn-hearted troubadour Mark Growden, acoustic groove-goddess Meklit Hadero, and psychedelic time-traveler Mark Matos all call Porto Franco ("free port") home, and the label's list of signed local talent just keeps growing. Though Russian father-and-son team Peter and Sergei Varshavsky seem at first glance unlikely advocates of these diverse sonic strands of Californicana, they are clearly embracing their role in this resurgence. In turn, their featured artists are being embraced by concert-goers from as far as Santa Fe, N.M., and as near as Stern Grove.
www.portofrancorecords.com

BEST BLACKBOX SEASON

Times are tough and money's still tight, even for the biggest theatres in the Bay Area. That makes it doubly amazing that this tiny company should be closing a record-busting 10-show season of "reimagined" classics with its most ambitious project to date — a three-play repertory schedule of Tennessee Williams that runs through Aug. 28th. But the **Boxcar Theatre** troupe is used to exceeding expectations from its very first performance, "21/One," which won a Best of the Fringe award for Best New Company in 2005, to its successful occupation and transformation of the previously rundown venue at 505 Natoma St., all within five short years. (Word on the street is that Boxcar just signed on to expand into a second space.) With a reputation for risk-taking, a sense of historical imperative and community involvement, and an emphasis on access — including at least one completely free, site-specific production per season — the Boxcar children have rapidly matured into a theatrical establishment that ranks among the very best SF has to offer.
505 Natoma, SF. (415) 776-1747
www.boxcartheatre.org

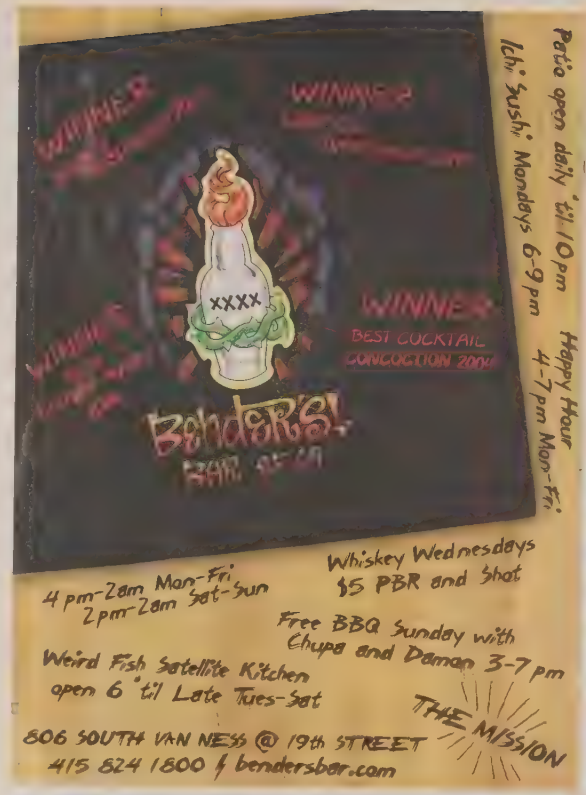
BEST KICK IN THE EARS

Local all-ages punk shows are always a hoot, but for those of us whose Mohawks have grown a bit, uh, dusty, they can often feel a bit uncomfortable. Who wants to come off as the moshin' grandma? The awesomely inclusive **Thursday Night Live** at the Eagle Tavern may be full of freewheeling, bar-aged young things — programmer Doug Hilsinger has managed to crowd the classic gay biker bar with punk and rock fans of all persuasions — but there are always a few OG punks to balance it out. All categorical divisions melt away once the stellar lineups of fresh-faced screamers and experienced thrashers take to the Eagle's tiny stage, conveying a true underground spirit. TNL doesn't confine itself solely to punkish strains — crazy country drag crooners, bearish electronic experimentalists, and rockabilly porn stars always have a place here. But the result's the same: a weekly a kick in the ears that makes you feel alive.
Thursdays, 10 p.m., $5. Eagle Tavern, 398 12th St., SF. (415) 626-0880
www.sfeagle.com

BEST FIGHTERS FOR OUR RIGHT TO PARTY

For the last several years, we at the Guardian have been on an often lonely crusade to highlight and repel the various assaults on nightlife, special events, and the urban culture of San Francisco, from the "Death of fun" (5/24/06) to the "New war on fun" (3/2/10). The attacks come from intolerant neighbors, aggressive cops, grandstanding politicians, and persnickety bureaucrats, and they've succeeded in shutting down events (such as Halloween in the Castro), clubs (Caliente), and private parties. But party people have finally organized and fought back, this year forming the well-funded and widely supported **California Music and Culture Association** to advocate for keeping the fun flowing and give the party purveyors the advice, support, and allies they need to maintain San Francisco as a world class city that isn't afraid to throw great parties. The association also functions as a network of promoters, club owners, and DJs who aren't afraid to speak out for the right to shut up and dance. www.cmacsf.org SFBG

> "The Grand Lake Theater is a remarkable neighborhood movie palace and a shining gem of principled independence in a cesspool of corporate hegemony."
>
> Brad Oshiro



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BEST OF THE BAY 2010

LOCAL HERO
KATHERINE PRIORE

"Something I love about San Francisco is being able to take yoga classes with the best teachers from here to Timbuktu."

YOGA EDUCATOR

Eleven years ago Katherine Priore was an English teacher in Cincinnati's public school system. After a particularly stressful day in the classroom, she finally took a close friend's advice by attending said friend's yoga class. Priore was instantly hooked. "I had never experienced such profound internal stillness. My stress was alleviated and the stream of anxious, teaching-related thoughts vanished in those 90 minutes." It was this eureka moment that set Priore on the path to creating Headstand (www.headstand.org), an organization providing youth in economically disadvantaged areas with access to yoga.

The organization's ultimate goal is to create a shift in the education system whereby the physical, emotional, and psychological health of students has the same importance as the academic skills they're building. Headstand aims to do its part by integrating yoga into the curriculum, not just as an elective but as a requirement. Over the past two years, the organization has offered 1,400 yoga classes to 660 youths in the East Bay and San Francisco, and this fall it plans to bring Headstand to San Jose and Houston. With a slew of evidence that Headstand is positively affecting the lives of its students, all signs point to the early success of the program and to the potential it may just be starting to fulfill. SFBG

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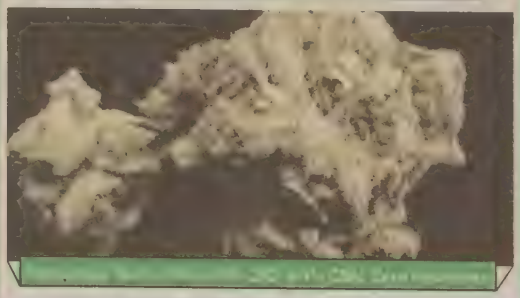

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BEST OF THE BAY 2010: EDITORS PICKS

SHOPPING

Best Squeaky-Sharp Wheels: Roaring Mouse Cycles | GUARDIAN PHOTO BY BEN HOPFER

BEST SUBJUGATION TO A QUEEN

Well before colony collapse disorder became a phrase of terror, Bay Area bee geeks were eyeing their neglected backyard anise and eucalyptus plants as potential ambrosial fill-up stations for honeybees. In 2008, **Her Majesty's Secret Beekeeper** entered the scene, giving the city's swelling ranks of colonial wannabees the ultimate sweet spot: a one-stop source for everything Apoidea. The clean, light-filled store — which has the distinction of being the only urban beekeeping store in the country — stocks backyard starter kits and supplies, those fabulous white hazmat-style suits (and really, haven't you always wanted one for demonstrations or Halloween?) beeswax candles, books, bee DIY products (i.e., honey and honeycombs), and, yes, bees. Let's face it, you haven't really tasted SF or embraced its hive mentality until you've drizzled some Gold Fine Crystal over your locally baked artisanal bread.
3520 20th St., SF. (415) 744-1465
www.hmsbeeker.com

BEST STEAMY SHOPPING

Shopping at **P-Kok** can be exhausting. You have to the cross the street, sometimes several times, just to take in all the cute clothes, bags, jewelry, scarves, etc. (and all at affordable prices) at P-Kok's two Haight Street locations. It's enough to make you want to find a tranquil garden, flop down on a chaise lounge with a beverage, and soothe your weary self with a sauna. At the P-Kok on the even side of the street (the one at 776 Haight), you can. Formerly the site of a day spa, P-Kok has preserved and replanted the inherited backyard garden sauna — renamed Eden — and rents it for $15 an hour. The best part: it accommodates up to 10. Packed like sardines or solo, it's the perfect antidote to bustling Haight Street— and the perfect refreshment before going back out into P-Kok(s) and loading up on more cute stuff.
776 Haight, SF. (415) 503-1280
www.pkoksf.com

BEST PLACE TO PLAY FOOTSIE

Distraction is the enemy of sock shopping — you came for ultrathin running socks, but omigod, the store has lilac suede Fluevogs with four-inch heels! Before you know it, you're out $250 and you still have no socks. That cannot happen at **SockShop Haight Street**. The small, newish, locally-owned store has nothing but socks and sock-related habiliment, including high socks, low socks, toe socks, boot socks, jock socks, kids socks, dad socks, tights, slipper-socks, and sock monkeys. And within those categories, SockShop goes way deep with wool socks, striped socks, plain socks, dot socks, cotton socks, argyle socks, cashmere socks, skull socks, floral socks, flag socks, food socks, animal socks, music socks, holiday socks, fox socks, blocks socks, and rocks socks ... Really, need we say more?
1780 Haight, SF. (415) 396-5400
www.sockshoponhaight.com

BEST MAJOLICA RUSH

OK, not all of us can afford to buy some ancient heap of stones fixer-upper villa in Siena where, caressed by sun and Italian hunks, we blossom into writers (bite us, *Under the Tuscan Sun* and *Bella Tuscany*).

CONTINUES ON PAGE 74 >>

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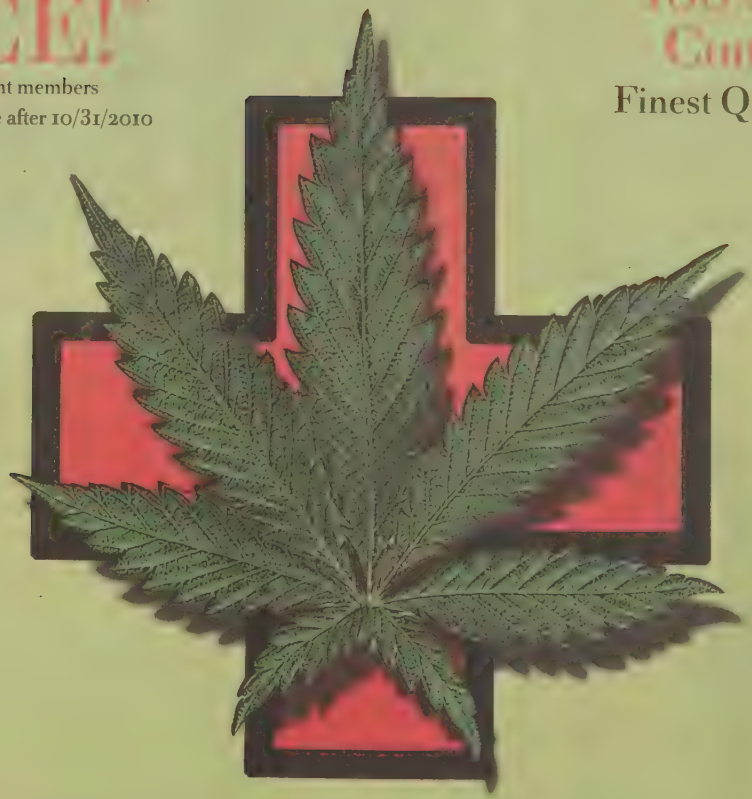

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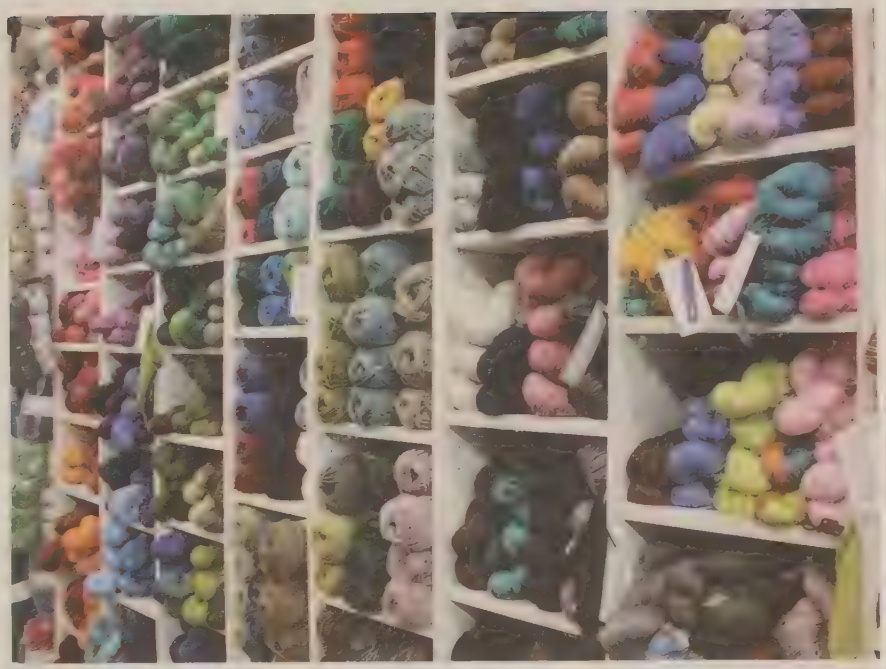
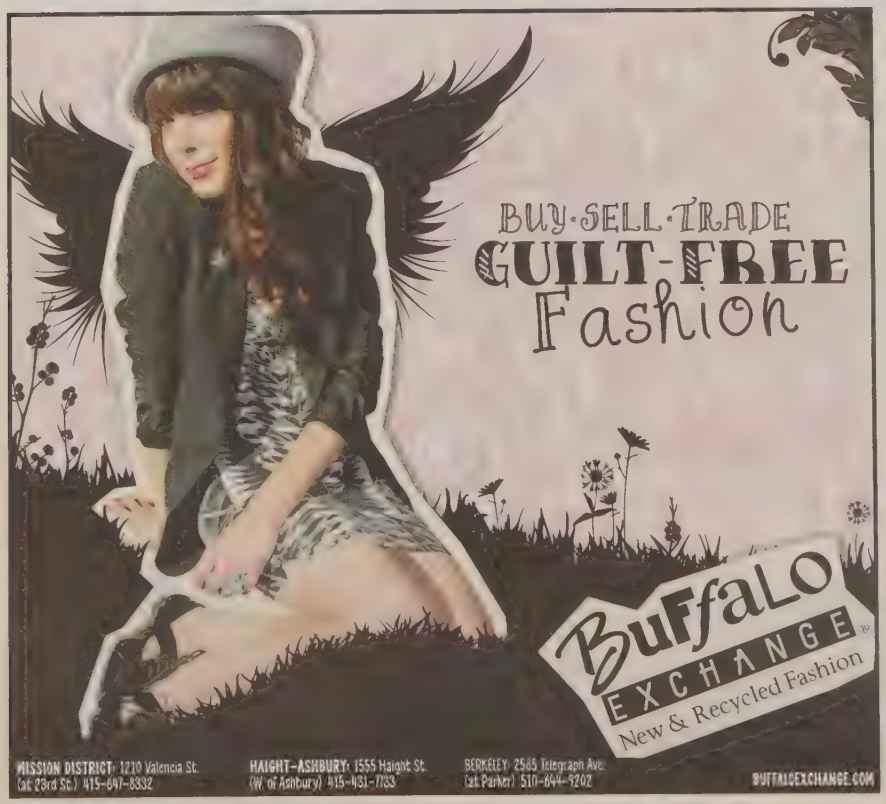


Best Fantasy Fabricators: ImagiKnit | GUARDIAN PHOTO BY BEN HOPFER



Shopping CONT>>

No, we must make do in our fog-shrouded garrets, scrounging for dropped change for a $2 cappuccino. But at some point, we can all afford to splurge on at least one small piece of authentic Italian splendor to add luster to our hardscrabble lives. That's when we head to **Biordi Art Imports** in North Beach, a floor-to-ceiling treasure trove of hand-painted Majolica ceramics. And once you start sipping your coffee from a gorgeous De Simone mug or spooning your gruel from a colorful Eurgenio Ricciarelli bowl, the virtual sunlight comes rushing in. You won't miss that stinkin' villa at all. Maybe the hunks.
412 Columbus, SF. (415) 392-8096
www.biordi.com

BEST CACHE OF GRACE NOTES

Be it ever so humble or token, city dwellers always seem to crave some connection to the natural world: the single bathroom orchid, the three desktop seashells, the rock and glass arrangement lining the windowsill. When it comes to finding these small grace notes (outside of illicitly pocketing them from Glass Beach or Muir Woods), our vote goes to **Xapno**. The small one-woman shop in the Lower Haight offers a beautiful and fragrant cornucopia of the best that nature and humanity create: fresh and dried flowers, plants, vases, candles, jewelry, cards, shells, branches, cacti, books, paper, paintings, and sometimes clothes and shoes. Furthermore, about half the artists are local, including a ceramics student at City College who has been baking baskets-full of delicate ceramic roses in varying shades of ivory, peach, and pink.
678 Haight, SF. (415) 863-8199
www.xapno.com

BEST GIRLY GIFTERIA

Ombre feather earrings, Hollywood Regency lamps, and two-headed chicks by way of the taxidermist — that's what **BellJar** is made of. Less evocative of Sylvia Plath's total collapse than a delicate glass chamber filled with oodles of fascinating objects, the Mission boutique has made a name for itself as the discriminating gothette or vintage girl's go-to for unique tchotchkes and gifts for loved ones — or, better yet, one's own bad, sweet self. Here, and on the store's recently revamped website, you'll find delightfully retro-esque and oh-so-womanly clothing, witty trinkets that draw inspiration from nature's bounty, exquisite earrings and necklaces, and founder Sasha Darling's dark-femme 'n' fabulous

eye for the Francophile, the girly, and the gorgeously Grimm.
3187 16th St., SF. (415) 626-1749
www.shopbelljarsf.com

BEST HANDCRAFTED NIPPLE-HUGGERS

Seductively snug latex over a perfectly pert nipple — yes, please! Skip the tassels, beads and sequins, and go for a super-sexy set of pasties that show off your breasts and hint at the budding shape beneath. The **Heartbreaker pasties by Madame S** are individually fashioned by hand in the SoMa fetish wear and sex shop's very own latex production lab by Madame's devilishly talented crafters. Hidden in the back behind kinky-costumed mannequins and closed doors, your breast's friend is taking on a cute, heart-shaped form right now and you should be anticipating ways to fit them into your daily wardrobe. Traditional black- and red-rimmed, these pasties are coquettish, classy, and come-hither all at once. Guaranteed to make jaws drop and temperatures rise with appreciation.
385 Eighth St., SF. (415) 863-9447
www.madame-s.com

BEST GOLD-GILDED GUIGNOL

Nothing celebrates life more than death — or at least, nothing is more invigoratingly creepy than opening a beautifully wrapped gift to find a life-size crown of thorns made with an assortment of deceased birds' legs. Haight boutique **Loved to Death** is stocked with goose-bump inflicting fancies, many of which are gold-encrusted and way more thought-provoking than a living bouquet. Say "I love you" with a 24-karat badger-claw brooch, surprise him with a scorpion in a vial, or show her you care by putting an antique baby doll head under her pillow. Taxidermy (no animals were killed in the making — they were dead already), resurrected art, antiques, and gothhip jewelry are way more fun when they test your lover's limits. And if your delicate beloved can't handle your purchase, you'll get to keep the muskrat mandible gold-gilded earrings yourself.
1681 Haight, SF. (415) 551-0136,
www.lovedtodeath.net

BEST HOMEGROWN DISNEY ALTERNATIVE

"We want to make things that have joy and humor, but that people aren't embarrassed to have lying around their house," says **Gama-Go** cofounder Greg Long. When Long and Chris Edmundson quit

CONTINUES ON PAGE 76 >>

Loved to Death
HAIGHT STREET'S PREMIERE
CURIOSITY SHOP AND ART GALLERY
ARTICULATED ART GALLERY
(upstairs)
1681 Haight St. LovedtoDeath.net 415-551-1030

Shopping CONT>>

their day jobs at an East Bay toy company 10 years ago, they were following a dream to make well-designed, cartoon-inspired clothing and products that played off the enormously popular, collectible-crazy pop surrealism movement happening in L.A. at the time. It was a vision that launched a thousand T-shirts. Today, some of Gama's cute-with-bite stock characters like Tigerlily, DeathBot, and that cuddly ice-bluish fave, Yeti, are common sights on city streets, clubbers' chests, and shopaholics' totes. And now there's Go for your pad too. Guitar-shaped spatulas and "pot" holders that resemble big old Mary Jane leaves make perfect gifts for that urban class clown.
335 Eighth St., SF. (415) 626-1213
www.gama-go.com

BEST SMELL OF AEROSOL IN THE MORNING

Screw a monument and urban planning: we live in City Beautiful. Walk down nearly any street in SF and there on the pavement and buildings you will find the stencils, murals, super burners, tags, and — how do you say? — art that makes this town rich in color, rich in mind. So where does the discerning street artist go for the tools and gear she needs to make these blocks pop? It's gotta be **1:AM** gallery, where prices on paint pens and aerosol spray trump the art supply and hardware stores every time. (1:AM as in "First Amendment" — and a tagger's preferred rise and shine.) Not to mention the whole gallery side of the space, which hosts some of the most original sometimes-street artists around — who often tag the outside of the store's Sixth Street walls in kaleidoscopic temporary letterings and designs.
1000 Howard, SF. (415) 861-5089
www.1amsf.com

BEST MAKEUP AS DRAMATIC AS YOU ARE

Word to the aspiring pageant queens: (apparently) it's not all about the Vaseline on the teeth and duct-taped boobs. You want that crown, you need a face full of grade-A goos and glosses — and we know just the place to get them, girl. **Kryolan Professional Makeup** has been in the primp game since 1942, plumping and perking a passel of pretties, including the 2010 Miss USA contestants. But maybe you're a DIY kind of queen? All good — Kryolan's got a kaleidoscopic showroom full of the glitz and glamour for them bright lights, including glitter in animal, vegetable, and mineral form (the company produces more than 16,000 products in

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Best Boutique Starr: Bianca Starr | GUARDIAN PHOTO BY MIRISSA NEFF

750 colors — over the top, just like you!). If you need help slopping it on in style, or just some tips on how to blend with a little subtlety, then strut, mamma, strut to application classes in the same building.
132 Ninth St., SF. (415) 863-9684
www.kryolan.com

BEST RUN TO FREEDOM

Better circulation, cardiovascular health, time to reflect: running makes you free. (Especially if it's away from an out-of-shape cop.) But pounding these city streets can be tough on the joints and bones. You'd like a little freedom from aching discomfort as well. So jog over to **On the Run**, an Inner Sunset shoe store that specializes in helping peeps in pain — seriously, half the store's first-time customers arrive with a doctor's referral. Its trained staff will send you for a walk on an electronic pad that measures foot pressure, plus pronation and supination (both refer to the angle at which your foot hits the block). They use a fancy device to measure your feet accurately, then hook you up with some sweet kicks that have you feeling fit, fast, and fab. You pay a bit more for all this podiatric prognostication, but hey, all runners know there's gotta be some pain in the gain.
1310 Ninth Ave., SF. (415) 665-5311
www.ontherunshoes.com

BEST SUCCOR FOR SUCCULENTS

The fog makes a great excuse for those with black thumbs. Usually we can blame our houseplants' premature striptease of this mortal coil on the clouded vagaries of our mini-ecosystem. However, even fact-based finger-pointing fails when it comes to the death of a beloved succulent. One simply should not be able to kill a cactus. And yet one does. Sigh. Should your astrophytum be stymied or your once-verdant aloe shade into an unbecoming red, **Succulence** is there. This secret garden store is hidden away on a Bernal Heights video store's back patio, packed with many a bulbous, spiny, or just plain prickly new friend for you to take home in an inventive recycled planter. But don't ditch that sickly chum languishing in your window box! Succulence also mixes a special soil blend that can resuscitate even the saddest looking ball o' spikes.
402 Cortland, SF. (415) 282-2212

BEST TEMPLE OF LIFE

In some lovely, distant universe, all we buy are magnificent orchids, and all the money goes to AIDS prevention and relief organizations. This impractically gorgeous fantasy becomes reality at nonprofit Orchid Mania's beautifully named **Orchid Temple**, based in an unassuming house in the Excelsior District that contains a three-climate greenhouse. OM has packed its temple with orchids that resemble dancing ladies, some smelling of blood (all the better to woo their insect pollinators), that will stop your housemates in their tracks with their glory on your kitchen table. Call ahead to alert the temple guards — or show up during the all-volunteer operation's open orchard hours, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Sundays — and take your time browsing for a worthy cause. The temple also functions as a bulb foster home to keep rare species from extinction. Let's just say they're into the preservation of beautiful lives all around.
717 Geneva, SF. (415) 841-1678
www.orchids.org

BEST ONE-STOP SKULL SHOP

You can't walk by **Martin's 16th Street Emporium** without ogling the ghoulish delights displayed in the windows. Casual strollers might be forgiven for thinking the place is called "The Skull Store" — an apt description, anyway, considering that the store is stuffed floor-to-ceiling with skulls galore. Though it's not open very often (try Thurs.-Sat. afternoons — look for

CONTINUES ON PAGE 78 >>

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$54 eye examinations are available by Sterling VisionCare, a California-licensed Vision Health Care Service Plan.

Shopping CONT>>

the pirate flag out front), it's well worth a special visit to pick up a gift for your favorite skull collector. Sterling silver jewelry is the main attraction, with everything from dangerous-looking knuckle-duster rings (scary skull!) to delicate pendants and earrings (fashion skull!). It also carries skull figurines and other knickknacks, not all of them skull-related, but many of them vintage. Imagine stumbling upon an uber-cool, slightly spooky estate sale. If the estate was owned by Cap'n Blood, that is.
3248 16th St., SF. (415) 552-4631
www.skullsinsf.com

BEST STASH OF CULTURED BOOTIE

Do you need a dashiki-looking starter jacket, a grafted Italian fresco, an antique colored glass chandelier — like, yesterday? Friend, welcome to the power of collection. And welcome to **Cottage Industry**, the domain of a one Claudio Barone. The Italian-born Barone has spent the last 22 years traipsing about the globe, purchasing goods from indigenous craftspeople (at prices reasonable to all parties involved), and then retreating to Fillmore, treasure secured and ready to be squeezed into his darling shop — waiting for the day when you must, absolutely, positively, have that carved ebony figurine from the Congo, right away! Even if your mission lacks a hysterical level of urgency, do drop by. The piled shelves of goods ranging in price from 10 cents to $30,000 will either heighten or assuage the most pressing case of wanderlust.
2326 Fillmore, SF. (415) 885-0326

BEST FOLDING FANATICS

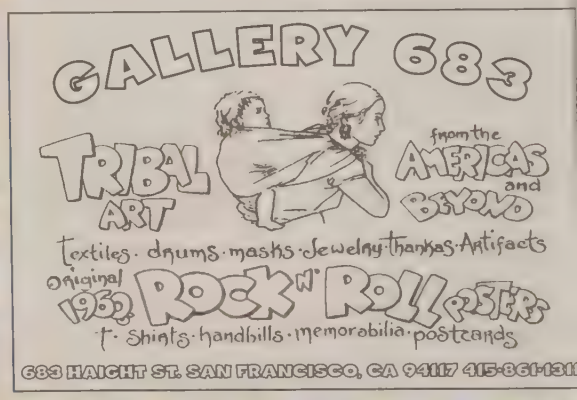
A gorilla sits in Japantown's classic origami store. She's squat and a little wrinkly, but say what you want about her lumps and rolls, she's fantastically multidimensional — and even carries a little baby on her back. You can expect that kind of artistic wonder from **Paper Tree**, opened by the Mihara family in 1978 and run to this day by sisters Vicky and Linda, who constructed the primate in question. Not only can their shop meet your most fantastical origami needs (and those for quirky Japanese "office supplies" like sushi-shaped erasers and beribboned money envelopes), but the Miharas are serious about taking a role in their neighborhood community. Their lively origami classes and art, a staple for the last 43 years at the Cherry Blossom Festival, are testament to their desire to share the love of a good fold.
1743 Buchanan, SF. (415) 921-7100,
www.paper-tree.com

Best Refined Ruggedness: Unionmade | GUARDIAN PHOTO BY BEN HOPFER

BEST BEACHY DREAMS

There are those who blow and bluster about the lack of true beach weather in our city of rolling fog. And then there are those that smile

CONTINUES ON PAGE 81 >>



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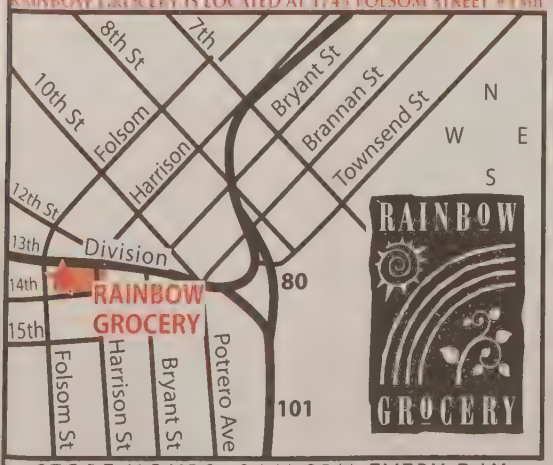

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POLITICIAN AND IMMIGRATION REFORM LEADER

San Francisco is a city of immigrants, a place where generations of people have come — from all over the country and all over the world — for a fresh start in a welcoming environment. But Mayor Gavin Newsom put that tradition at risk this year when he directed law enforcement agents to start referring juveniles charged with crimes to federal immigration authorities. It's been a disaster — in one case, a 13-year-old charged with stealing 46 cents was turned over to the feds, and he and his mom, who is married to a U.S. citizen, both faced deportation, breaking up a family.

San Francisco Sup. David Campos has led the battle to protect the city's sanctuary policy — and has taken on the larger issue of immigration reform. An immigrant who arrived in the United States from Guatemala at 14 (and who couldn't get federal financial aid to go to college because of his status), Campos isn't afraid to challenge the growing nativist movement: "What's made this country great," he told us, "is taking talent from all over the world and integrating it into society. Now the current climate precludes that." SFBG

GUARDIAN PHOTO BY KEENEY AND LAW PHOTOGRAPHY

Shopping CONT>>

and manifest sunbeams. Of the latter faction is Meggie White, whose Marina boutique, **.meggie.**, imparts the same hope for rays as its fetching blonde owner. A breezy interior of hardwood and weathered white fixtures plays snazzy backdrop to .meggie.'s wonderland: fly floral sundresses share racks with the thinnest of sherbet-colored tees and cardigans. So stock up — what if that freak summer sunburst pokes through, and you without your pastels! .meggie. stocks several local designers, and White herself makes a supremely sand-worthy line of hand-forged silver, stone, and shell jewelry. So much more fun than that panicked schlep to J.Crew.
2277 Union, SF. (415) 525-3586
www.meggiejewelry.com

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3885 Cesar Chavez, SF. (415) 282-4712
www.omnivorebooks.com

BEST TL ROUGHNECKS

So you're headed to psych class at City College one day when, on a dime, you say forget it — I'm going to follow my love and start a mini-skateboard empire in the Tenderloin instead. Welcome to the life of Johnny Roughneck. The boarder opened tee shirt treasure trove **Dwntwn Skate Supply** to hawk his Roughneck line of skate hardware and give a hand to new designers, like those of TL-repping clothing line The Loin, all while establishing a let's-have-fun attitude in a neighborhood that often has its odds stacked against

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Shopping CONT>>

it. Occasional barbeques out on the Hyde Street pavement have given the shop some presence on the block, and Dwntwn has even played jump-off to some wildly legit skating events. Check out the video of the Roughneck crew's 2010 Caltrain tour for Bay skating inspiration.
644 Hyde, SF. (415) 913-7422
www.dwntwnsf.com

BEST PRINTER WITH A PURPOSE

Raising your fist is all well and good, but if your arm gets tired, you'll want that rebel yell printed on your T-shirt for good measure. After helping to found the Mission's community screen-printing shop, Mission Gráfica, radical artist Jos Sanches opened **Alliance Graphics** in 1988. He needed a place where he could continue to churn out his poster print protests against the world's various sources of evil (capitalism, neoimperialism, commercialism, and a busted justice system, to name some of his faves) — and still be a resource for the progressive causes that to this day need a voice on the street. Does your war cry scream out to be monogrammed on a bumper sticker, backpack, or umbrella? Alliance can get the job done right, with union labor and made in the USA products to boot.
1101 Eighth St., Berk. (510) 845-8835
www.unionbug.com

BEST FAST TRACK TO THRIFT BLISS

Lord, these used clothing stores. The racks of oversized leggings, the bins of kitty-appliquéd sweatshirts, the puff paint visors. (Wait, are those hip now?) Who has the time for such excavations? There are times when you just want to throw your hands in the air like you just don't care and head to the local Anthropologie. But back down off that ledge! Erica Skone-Rees' **Collage** on Potrero Hill can be your one-stop cool kid shop when you haven't the time to rifle through Grandma's old church dresses. Skone-Rees has stocked her boutique with well-edited used clothing at prices not too far above Goodwill price gouges. (Her nifty store of scavenged home décor is next door.) And you'll never find her array of locally-made jewelry and well-preserved boots and slippers at any Salvation Army. But be forewarned: Collage's collection of

late 1990s failed tech startup mascot hats is a bit lacking.
1345 18th St., SF. (415) 282-4401
www.collage-gallery.com

BEST BOUTIQUE STARR

Is there anything that **Bianca Starr** owner Bianca Kaplan can't do? After moving on from her bangin' DJ spot, 222 Hyde, Kaplan turned

> "Pave Fine Jewelry creates jewelry pieces so scrumptious you wish you could eat them: amethysts like sparkling pomegranate seeds and watermelon wedges of tourmaline pendants."
>
> Sharon Tyler, San Francisco

her eyes from beats to threads — secondhand designer label threads, which her Mission boutique sells to all the fly ladies looking for a clubby, classy, strappy looks (with just a hint of "Dynasty" decadence and chola sass) in which to creature up the night. Dresses, separates, handbags, belts, jewelry, and footwear: no detail is overlooked. Always collaborative, Kaplan picks chic up-and-coming designers to feature at her packed monthly stylist boutique events, and hands them the reigns to her racks for the night. And if you happen to stroll past Bianca Starr (so-called for her childhood friend's coolest name

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Detail of Ledger Painting by Michael Horse

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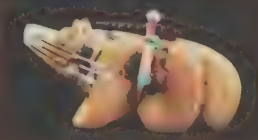

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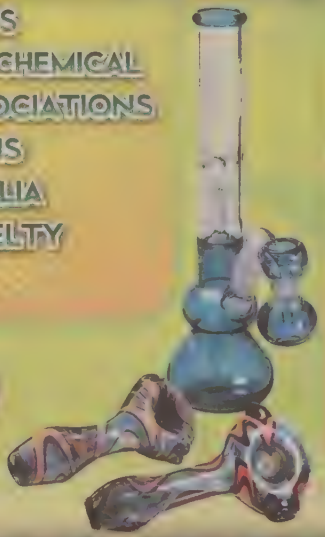

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Best Smell of Aerosol in the Morning: 1:AM gallery | GUARDIAN PHOTO BY BEN HOPFER

Shopping CONT>>

ever) on a sunny day, you might just catch Kaplan and her girlfriends lounging streetside with a bottle of champagne. Wearing the cutest frocks you've ever seen, natch.
3552 20th St., SF. (415) 341-1020
www.biancastarr.com

BEST FANTASY FABRICATORS

The mother-in-law's birthday approaches, and all we know is that she likes to knit socks. Maybe we can help out with her frosty feet at the **ImagiKnit** store we always pass in the Castro? Probably great for some yarn — maybe a little bit fusty, too, though, and maybe somewhat intimidating to those who've never pearled. Imagine our surprise as we enter a rainbow wonderland busting with spectacular spun materials — spiky mohair, luminous silk, titillating cashmere, speckled cotton — and staffed by immediately accommodating people who don't want to stick needles in our naïve newbie eyes. More shock: we run into several of our hippest friends leafing through vintage pattern books and holding court at the DIY wool winders. ImagiKnit's community vibe and vibrant stock draw us in for hours. In the end we make the momentous decision to knit those socks ourselves. Sorry about the six toes, Mom.
3897 18th Street, SF. (415) 621-6642
www.imagiknit.com

BEST NIBSTER

Fountain pen lovers are a strange bunch. We spend hundreds of dollars on something that's part status symbol, part jewelry, part objet d'art and, oh, yes, part writing instrument. Sometimes these works of exquisite craftsmanship write beautifully; sometimes they leak, skip, spurt ink all over the paper (and our hands), and don't write at all. That's why **Stephanie Boyette**, the fountain pen expert at Flax, is our favorite nibster. She can help you pick the right pen and ink, tell you how to use acrylic flow enhancers, give you tips on maintenance, and often tell you with a quick glance why your precious pen is malfunctioning. In fact, she's so devoted that she's been chosen to work as an apprentice to John Mottishaw, the Los Angeles nib-repair expert who is widely regarded as the best fountain pen surgeon in America.
1699 Market, SF. (415) 552-2355
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BEST PLACE TO FLIP YOUR WIG

What's that on your head? If it ain't a wig, get thee to the **Wig Factory**, pronto, because every man, woman, boy, girl, dog, cat, bird, and goldfish needs at least one follicular embellishment to send their look into another, more fabulous dimension. The Wig Factory's capital selection includes everything from utter realness to costume frivolity — it's got you covered like Andre Agassi's cranium after half a can of Ron Popeil's spray-on hair. Devotees know that Wig Factory is subject to some controversy because of its rules limiting the number of hairpieces you can try on in a single visit, which some people complain about. Such folks conflate whining with Yelping — ignore them. Do you want to try on a wig that's already been tested by a hundred finicky entitled shoppers who think their scalps don't stink? We don't think so. Queens and princesses, beauty is here, on a mannequin head. Kings and princes, you can look like Adam Lambert or a Brylcreemed silver fox in a single fitting.
3020 Mission, SF. (415) 282-4939

BEST MINTY FRESH FASHIONS

It's easy to show your California love when it's directed at **Mint Mall**, a SF-based online clothing shop that mixes fine originals with vintage finds. An appreciation for natural fabrics, an eye for vibrant eras of well-known and obscure labels, and the type of tough dedication required to make the best thrifting finds are three of the special ingredients that make up Mint Mall. But the two main factors are co-owners Corina Biliandzija and Genevieve Dodge, who teamed up over half-a-decade ago and have refined their own designs and vintage visions with each passing day. Mint Mall items are fun to wear and born from the pair's love and enthusiasm for fashion and every-

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day style. Native fringe, Aztec or cartoon prints, bell-sleeved tunic tops, Grecian gold thread minis, Bergdorf Goodman floral maxis, Diane von Furstenberg silk wraps, Givenchy platforms, original hoodies — the dynamic duo behind Mint Mall work hard for your closet, so you better treat them right.
www.stores.ebay.com/the-mint-mall

BEST SWEET SHOP TO MAKE A SUPERSTAR PROUD

Even before it opened, **Candy Darling** had a reputation, thanks to its fabulous name and kicky red plastic sign. Passersby were left to wonder — would it be a candy shop, or a drag queen fashion emporium? Those with a sweet tooth were the ones who received the happy answer, though, to be honest, there's something wonderfully Grey Gardens about the store's vintage 1960s or '70s feel. Candy Darling the Warhol superstar was utterly unique, the essence of feminine glamour, and as soft and lovely as a lilac-scented breeze. Candy Darling the corner shop is a little paradise of sea-salt caramels, milk chocolate turtles, rocky road clusters, English toffee bars, and dark chocolate-dipped candied ginger. It does its namesake proud, which is no small feat. Visit Candy Darling just once and you might never see Mrs. See again.
798 Sutter, SF. (415) 346-1500

BEST BOOK HAVEN FOR ART LOVERS

A great bookstore is almost like an inspiring place of worship, except more fun and more grounded in palpable truth. Some of San Francisco's best bookstores are nestled into nooks, like the esoteric Bolerium, or ready to move, like **871 Fine Arts**. The numbers in this tome emporium and gallery's name are enigmatic: for years, it brought some historical heart and heft to the art biz maze that is 49 Geary, and now it's at 20 Hawthorne, another half-hidden location. (So the name's obviously not address-oriented; perhaps it refers to the year Viking king Bagsecg died?) Owner Adrienne Fish has developed a selection of art books that is simply second to none in SF — 871 mixes old and new titles, is well-organized, and brings a sense of depth and breadth to any movement or era. The layout and lighting are attractive and efficient, and browsers and buyers can also enjoy an art show during a visit, since Fish's curatorial acumen regarding California art is extra-sharp.
20 Hawthorne, SF. (415) 543-5155

Best Handcrafted Nipple-Huggers: Heartbreaker pasties by Madame S | PHOTO BY KAT BRET

BEST KANDI WHEN YOU'RE RANDY

Great reasons to use a glass dildo: they last longer, they're less likely to harbor harmful bacteria, they retain temperature well — and on first glance, they more resemble works of fine art than hump handles. It was this urge toward aesthetic excellence that compelled Samantha Liu to open **Glass Kandi**, the display shop for her online catalog Glass Dildo Me. Liu provides expert guidance to the adventurous singles and curious couples who grace her door, smoothly introducing them to the exact masterpiece of whorled glass and embedded metals that will rev their engines. And don't worry if you have a lady who likes to accessorize — Glass Kandi's arsenal of whips, wigs, jewelry, and more is tinglingly top notch.
569 Geary, SF. (415) 931-2256
www.glasskandi.com

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1352 Irving, SF. (415) 753-6272
www.roaringmousecycles.com

BEST REFINED RUGGEDNESS

Way out west, where Midwestern dreams take form, there's a Victorian that predates the great 1906 quake. There, you'll find men's workwear goods refined to something like an art form. They're well-arranged in a shop known to sport an American flag or two, not in any jingoistic way, but as a

> "Stone's Cyclery, in business since 1943, is a terrific traditional bike shop. Owner Dennis Stone is the best bike fitter I have ever met."
>
> [illegible]

reflection of its "finest quality dry goods": jeans, shirts, bags, boots, and other masculine items, all selected by Todd Barket, whose design eye has influenced some of the more popular mass-market clothing brands on Market Street. The attire in **Unionmade** is considerably pricier for the most part, but with a sharpness, durability, and practical ingenuity (they've carried Chester Wallace canvas bags built to fit two six-packs) you won't find for a lower tag. While a different nearby store has Japanese denim for those whose wallets can indulge in jean dreams, Barket stocks Levi's from the '40s, '50s, and '60s, a tack that taps into the brand's SF past

CONTINUES ON PAGE 88 >>

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BEST OF THE BAY 2010

Shopping CONT>>

and relates to it newer brands such as Woolrich and Gitman Tanner. Look for the Unionmade label, or rather, for the stamp on your bag when you've made a purchase.
493 Sanchez, SF. (415) 861-3373
www.unionmadegoods.com

BEST FRILLS OF A LIFETIME

If you can't find something to geek out on in Japantown's five-story New People Tokyo fashion mall, you're not doing it right. But not many of the pop culture palace's multitudinous corners have spawned their very own local

> "Nabila's Grocery always has great music playing, from jazz to abstract beats. Plus there's a John Coltrane mural out front."
>
> Larry, Hayes Valley

subcultures — which brings us to **Baby, the Stars Shine Bright**, a Harajuku ministore mecca, and one of the original brands responsible for the "Sweet Lolita" dress up movement in Japan. Lady-like Lolita adherents flounce around in intensely festooned outfits otherwise seen only on the most precious of collectible baby dolls. And since this is the BSSB brand's only U.S. retail source, pretty-pretty princesses come from far and wide to partake in the store's frillfest of matching dresses, bonnets, Mary Janes, and parasols. For extra credit, the Lolitas can play at BSSB-organized tea parties, held at pinkies-up swank spots all over the city.
1746 Post, SF. (415) 525-8630
www.newpeopleworld.com SFBG

7.28.10

In 29 states, it is still legal to fire someone solely because they are lesbian, gay, or bisexual.

The mayor's horrible deal

EDITORIAL Mayor Gavin Newsom put the supervisors in a terrible position — and showed the worst kind of political arrogance — when he held $43 million worth of critical services hostage to his desire to continue packing commissions with political hacks. The deal he presented to the board was shameful, and the supervisors should have rejected it. And now they should pass legislation to make this sort of logrolling illegal.

The mayor's original budget plan included sharp cuts to a wide range of services. The supervisors' Budget Committee found a way to add back more than $40 million in funding for things like psychiatric beds at SF General Hospital, violence-prevention programs, and public financing for the next mayor's race.

But under the City Charter, the mayor can simply refuse to spend that money — and that's what Newsom said he would do. That is, unless the board would agree to reject two proposed charter amendments to reform the Municipal Transportation Agency and the Recreation and Park Commission.

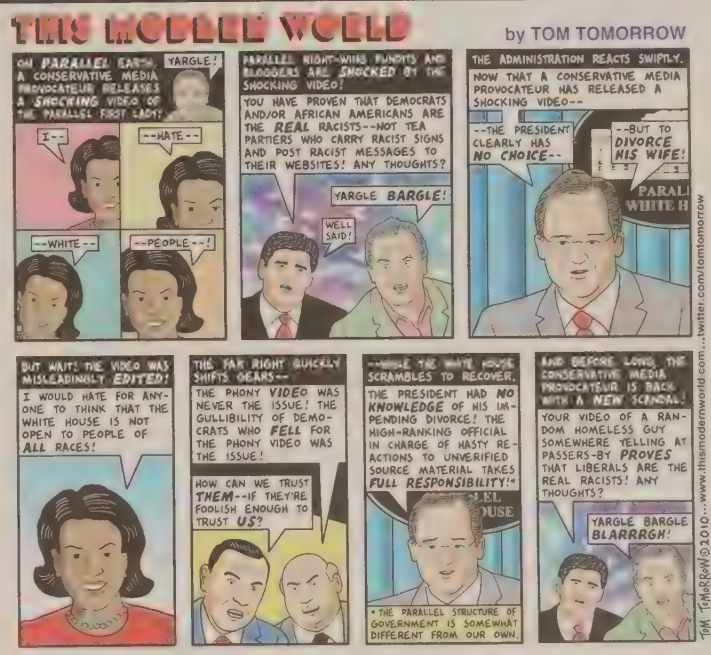
Let's remember: the MTA and Rec-Park measures have nothing to do with the budget. The board wanted to overhaul those departments (and give the board some appointments) because they're a mess; the Rec-Park Commission, appointed entirely by the mayor, is a rubber-stamp agency that votes with nearly 100 percent unanimity on every issue. The MTA has served as a slush fund for the police department at a time when bus lines are cut and fares keep going up.

Newsom told board members that he could, indeed, restore the funding they wanted; the money was there. But he wouldn't. In other words, he would allow desperately ill people to be turned away from SF General for lack of a bed — if the board didn't stand down on its reforms. And by a 6-5 margin, with Board President David Chiu providing the critical vote for the mayor's agenda, the board went along with the deal.

Even worse: Chiu and his colleagues gave up their charter amendments. But the mayor didn't give up his: a Newsom measure that would prevent elected officials (like Chiu) from serving on the Democratic County Central Committee is still on the ballot.

Five of the progressives on the board hung tough, and Sups. John Avalos, David Campos, Chris Daly, Eric Mar, and Ross Mirkarimi deserve credit for refusing to accept a bad, embarrassing deal.

But in the end, the board got rolled. The mayor played tough and a majority of the supervisors folded. If a supervisor proposes trading one piece of legislation for another, it would violate state law. That doesn't apply to the mayor — but it should. The board should immediately pass legislation outlawing vote trading for all local elected officials, including the chief executive. Let's see if Newsom wants to veto that. SFBG



Why is Pelosi killing ENDA?

By Gabriel Haaland

OPINION Why is the Congressmember from the gayest city in America blocking legislation that protects lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender workers from workplace discrimination? That's the question LGBT workers across the country are asking, and why LGBT workers picketed her office in the Federal Building and delivered a letter demanding that she not kill the Employee Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA).

Most LGBT workers have no protections from workplace discrimination. ENDA would provide legal protection against discrimination nationally. In 29 states, it is still legal to fire someone solely because they are lesbian, gay, or bisexual. And in 38 states it is legal to fire someone solely for being transgender. The current version of the bill would outlaw discrimination on both sexual orientation and gender identity.

Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi repeatedly promised that she would schedule a vote on the law, but repeatedly broke these promises.

A 2006 study by the Guardian and Transgender Law Center found that 60 percent of transgender people in San Francisco earn less than $15,300 per year, only 25 percent have a full-time job, and nearly 9 percent have no source of income.

Only 4 percent reported making more than $61,200, which is about the median income in the Bay Area. More than half of local transgender people live in poverty, and 96 percent earn less than the median income. Forty percent of those surveyed don't even have a bank account.

What this study reveals is that even in a city that is considered a haven for the LGBT community, transgender workers face profound employment challenges and discrimination. If this is true in San Francisco, imagine the figures in less queer-friendly towns.

A 2007 meta-analysis from the Williams Institute of 50 studies of workplace discrimination against LGBT people found consistent evidence of bias in the workplace. The analysis found that up to 68 percent of LGBT people reported experiencing employment discrimination, and up to 17 percent said they had been fired or denied employment.

Public opinion polling shows that Americans are overwhelmingly in favor of making sure LGBT Americans get the same employment opportunities as everyone else. In fact, the latest surveys show that nearly 90 percent of Americans support workplace fairness for LGBT workers.

In a few weeks, Congress will finish its legislative business for the year so members can return to their districts to run for reelection. Last month at a LGBT Pride event, Rep. Jackie Spier (D-San Mateo) announced to a stunned crowd that not only would we not get ENDA before the end of the legislative session but she doesn't think we would get it for five years because we won't have enough votes in Congress again to ensure passage.

That's right, at this moment, members of Congress are planning on leaving town and going home to campaign for their own jobs — while leaving thousands of LGBT workers without protections for the next five years. When 90 percent of Americans support workplace fairness, it's challenging to believe that Pelosi fears a backlash from the voters.

That said, it's fair to say that Pelosi may get a backlash from LGBT voters if she continues to block ENDA from a vote. The time to pass ENDA is now. The American people support it; the politicians promised it. No more broken promises. We demand that the House speaker stop blocking ENDA and schedule a vote. SFBG

Gabriel Haaland is a member of Pride at Work.

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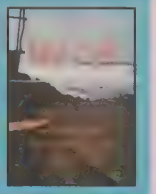

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Pig Skinned (#1 Bestseller in Sociology of Sports, his second Novel that follows a football superstar through the aftermath of a hate crime)
The Bridge Burners (a kleptomaniac hides out in Mendocino before stealing the ultimate prize, Prequel to the NEW release "Pill-billies")
PILL-BILLIES (Pill-billies tells the story of Oxycontin smugglers who travel back and forth from Florida's Pain Clinics to Appalachian Kentucky to feed their addiction)
My O.B. (My O.B. is another surf Novel, ecoterrorists in Frisco fight City Hall over the mishandling of the eroding coastline of Ocean Beach)
The Jets of Enceladus (In the year 2279, man attempts to land on the Saturnian moon of Enceladus, which has 10,000 foot tall geysers that blow out a water particulate believed to be responsible for creating the E-Ring around Saturn)
The Tongueless Language (Southern Anti-war Poetry)
The Undead of the Low Country (First book in a trilogy about the Vampires of the Sea Islands of the Carolinas and Georgia who are tied in with the local Voodoo community of Root Doctors, slip-skin hags, and zombies)
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Wilbur Storey, statement of the aims of the *Chicago Times*, 1861

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PEPPER RABBIT CANDY CLAWS THAT GHOST Hemlock Tavern	VILLAGERS BART DAVENPORT GREG ASHLEY Rickshaw Stop	ADDISON JUNIOR PANTHERS THE SOFT BOMBS Hemlock	THE LOVE DIMENSION THESE HILLS OF GOLD NECTARINE PIE THE AERSOLS El Rio
THE BLACK SEEDS THE HOLDUP PACIFIC DUB Slim's	ERIC LINDELL Coda	CONNIE LIM BLACKSTONE HEIST NARWHAL BRIGADE Hotel Utah	INTERSTELLAR GRAINS SEAN TASOR BAND ONE F Cafe Du Nord
NAJE Coda	CORMORANT STONEHAVEN MARY SHELLEY DEAFHEAVEN DJ ROB METAL Thee Parkside	WOLF PARADE MOODLS ZOLA JESUS Fox Theater	DESTRUMENTS GIOVENCO PROJECT Coda
THE JACK CURTIS DUBOWSKY ENSEMBLE PERFORMS DEPECHE MODE'S VIOLATOR THE NORD ENSEMBLE ELECTROSONIC CHAMBER Cafe Du Nord	NEGATIVE TREND THE HASHASHINS MONARCHS Bottom of the Hill	SOILWORK DEATH ANGEL AUGURY MUTINY WITHIN Slim's	PAT BENATAR REO SPEEDWAGON The Greek Theatre

SUN 8/1	MON 8/2	TUE 8/3	WED 8/4
SQUEEZE ENGLISH BEAT The Fillmore	BOMB THE MUSIC INDUSTRY SHINOBU DAN POTTHAST Bottom of the Hill	THE WATSON TWINS FERRABY LIONHEART Cafe Du Nord	BLONDIE The Fillmore
GWYNETH & MONKO ABBY FRENES CYNDI HARVELL Rickshaw Room	JOANNA NEWSOM JOANNA NEWSOM ROBIN PECKNOLD Fox Theater	ALFREDO RODRIGUEZ TRIO Yoshi's SF	THE PARTIES BYE BYE BLACKBIRDS LOTUS MOONS Hemlock
SCORPIONS Sleep Train Pavilion	WE LANDED ON THE MOON FADED PAPER FIGURES Elbo Room	SILVERSUS PICKUPS AGAINST ME! HENRY CLAY PEOPLE Fox Theater	SKY PARADE EVERYTHING GONE GREEN ANTOINETTE G Make-Out Room
SUNSET JESSE WOODS BURROWS MARK DAVID ASHWORTH MHA Bar	THE DIOJERIDU SUMMIT Yoshi's SF	THE HOBO GOBLINS FOR FEAR THE HEARTS OF MEN ARE BREAKING GROOMING THE CROW El Rio	SPIRO AGNEW BE YOUR OWN COACH EXHAUSTED PIPES LA VERITA The Uptown

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Please check with music venues for prices and availability

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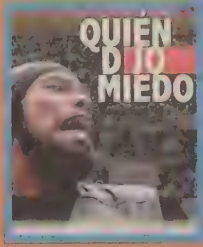

"Quién dijo miedo"
(Who's Afraid?)
Wednesday, August 4 • 7pm

Join us for the San Francisco premiere of this documentary that gives inside look into how everyday Hondurans responded to the 2009 military coup that sent their country into chaos.

Q & A with Director Kevin Lee follows the screening.

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Quién dijo miedo
Teatro en el Barrio
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City Hall standoff

Budget approval linked to backroom deals with Newsom

By Steven T. Jones
steve@sfbg.com

Backroom politics, vote-trading, threats, and tricky legislative maneuvering marked — some would say marred — the approval of the city's 2010-11 budget and a package of fall ballot measures.

For weeks, Mayor Gavin Newsom had been threatening to simply not spend the roughly $42 million in budgetary add-backs the supervisors had approved July 1, mostly for public health and social services, unless they agreed to withdraw unrelated November ballot measures that Newsom opposes (see "Bad faith," July 14).

The board's July 20 meeting included a flurry of last-minute maneuvers interrupted by an hours-long recess during which Newsom, Board President David Chiu, and their representatives negotiated a deal that was bristled at by progressive supervisors and fiscal conservative Sup. Sean Elsbernd.

Ideological opposites Elsbernd and Sup. Chris Daly voted against motions to delay consideration of several measures — including splitting appointments to the Rent, Recreation and Park, and Municipal Transportation Authority boards; revenue measures; and requiring police foot patrols — until after approval of the city budget.

"What is the connection between [seismic retrofit] bonds and the budget?" Elsbernd asked as Budget Committee chair John Avalos made the motion to delay consideration of the $46 million general obligation bond Newsom proposed for the November ballot.

Avalos made an oblique reference to "other meetings" that were happening down the hall. Daly then criticized the maneuver, noting that "vote trading is illegal," later citing a 2006 City Attorney's Office memo stating that supervisors may not condition their votes on unrelated items.

But that didn't stop supervisors from engaging in a complex, private dance with the Mayor's Office and other constituencies that day. In the end, the board approved the budget on a 10-1 vote, with Daly in dissent. Then Chiu provided the swing vote to kill the progressive proposal to split with the mayor appointments to the Recreation and Park Commission, with Sups. Daly, Avalos, Ross Mirkarimi, David Campos, and Eric Mar on the losing end of a 5-6 vote to place the measure on the fall ballot.

A measure to split appointments to the Rent Board was defeated on a 10-1 vote, with Daly dissenting, although that seems to be tactical concession by progressives. Campos, who sponsored the measure, said landlord groups were threatening an aggressive campaign against the measure that would also seek to tarnish progressive supervisorial candidates.

Removal of an MTA reform measure from the ballot, another mayoral demand, was also likely at the July 27 meeting (held after Guardian press time). Chiu told his colleagues July 20 that he was still negotiating with the mayor on implementing some of its provisions without going to the ballot this year.

Chiu rejected the notion that he cut an inappropriate budget deal, saying he was concerned the split appointment measures would be portrayed as a board power grab, noting that community groups need the funding that Newsom was threatening to withhold, and saying the board's threats not to fund Newsom's Project Homeless Connect facility and Kids2College Savings program were also factors in the deal.

"We were engaged with a number of conversations, they all took time, and we didn't finish until very late," Chiu told us.

Even Daly acknowledged supervisors had few options to counter Newsom's threats, but told us, "It's just not the way we should be doing things."

The decision on three revenue measures (a parking tax increase, property transfer tax, and business tax reform) was set for July 27, with sources telling the Guardian that only one or perhaps two would make it onto the ballot. Newsom opposes all of them. Also hanging in the balance was Mirkarimi's ballot measure requiring police to do more foot patrols, as well as another version in which Chiu added a provision that would invalidate the Newsom-backed ordinance banning sitting or lying on sidewalks, a retaliation for Newsom inserting a similar poison pill in his hotel tax loophole measure that would invalidate the hotel tax increase that labor put on the ballot if it gets more votes.

Board President David Chiu cut the budget deal that left some of his colleagues unhappy. | GUARDIAN PHOTO BY BEN HOPFER

But most of the action was on July 20. The Transportation Authority (comprised of all 11 supervisors) voted 8-3 (with Chiu, Avalos, and Mar opposed) to place a $10 local vehicle license fee surcharge on the ballot, which would raise about $5 million a year for Muni. A Daly-proposed ballot measure to create an affordable housing fund and plan failed on 4-7 vote, with only Campos, Mar, and Chiu joining Daly.

There were some progressive victories as well. A charter amendment by Mirkarimi to allow voters to register on election day was approved 9-2, with Elsbernd and Alioto-Pier in dissent. A Chiu-proposed measure to allow non-citizens to vote in school board elections was approved 9-2, with Elsbernd and Carmen Chu voting no. And a Daly-proposed charter amendment to require the mayor to engage in public policy discussions with the board once a month was approved 6-5, opposed by Dufty, Alioto-Pier, Elsbernd, Maxwell, and Chu.

But the busy day left some progressives feeling unsettled. "How do you do this and not be trading votes?" Campos told us. "In the end, we're saving programs, but what does it say about the institution of the board?"

Newsom spokesperson Tony Winnicker denied that the mayor made inappropriate threats, but confirmed that a deal was cut and told us, "Yes, the Mayor made his concerns about the budget clear. Yes, the mayor made his concerns about the charter amendments clear." SFBG

For weeks, Mayor Gavin Newsom had been threatening not to spend the roughly $42 million in budgetary add-backs the Board of Supervisors had approved.

ALERTS

By Paula Connelly
alert@sfbg.com

WEDNESDAY, JULY 28

Congestion pricing revealed
The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Authority will present findings from its federally-funded "Mobility, Access, and Pricing Study" of how best to deal with traffic congestion and create a sustainable transportation infrastructure. The study includes details on using congestion pricing fees to deter driving downtown at peak times and fund alternative ways of getting around.
5:30 p.m., free
SFCTA Hearing Room, 26th Floor
100 Van Ness, SF
www.sfmobility.org

Vision California
Vision California representatives will discuss a new effort to explore the critical role of land use and transportation investments in meeting the environmental and fiscal challenges facing California in coming decades.
5:30 p.m., $21
AIA East Bay Chapter
1405 Clay, Oakl.
(510) 464-3600

FRIDAY, JULY 30

Hotel Voices
This theater project is written and performed by single room occupancy (SRO) hotel residents. POOR Magazine writers Tony Robles and Tiny collaborated with hotel residents on a 20-week writing, performance, and script-development workshop that led to *Hotel Voices*.
7 p.m., $10
The Redstone Building
2940 16th St., SF
(415) 863-6306
www.poormagazine.org

SATURDAY, JULY 31

Relay for Life
Celebrate the lives and struggles of former and current cancer patients, as well as their caretakers, those who have lost loved ones, and the families, businesses, and civic organizations affected by their illnesses.. Fight back by volunteering, joining a relay team, or donating to this 24-hour fundraiser and awareness building event. Featuring live music and food.
10 a.m.–10 a.m., July 31–Aug. 1, donations encouraged
Little Marina Green
Marina at Baker, SF
www.relayforlife.org/sanfranciscoembarcaderoca

Release the activists
Help raise awareness for Bay Area activists Sarah Shourd, Shane Bauer, and Josh Fatta, who are being unjustly detained in Iran after accidentally crossing the border from Iraq while hiking. Bring your instruments, bands, dancing shoes, and poetry for a rally and open mic in Dolores Park following a march from 16th and Mission streets.
Noon, free
Meet at 16th St. and Mission, SF
www.freethehikers.org

Sidewalks Are For People
Celebrate San Francisco's public spaces by taking part in an all-day sidewalk dedicated to reclaiming SF's unique culture and history of tolerance and compassion. Throw your own event or participate in one of the many sidewalk parties happening all over the city. All events culminate in an end-of-the-day party, location TBA.
All day, free
Everywhere in San Francisco
www.sidewalksareforpeople.org

TUESDAY, AUG. 3

Green Generations
Network at this fundraiser for SF Nature Education, Pie Ranch Youth Advocacy, and Exploring New Horizons Outdoor School, three nonprofits that provide environmental education to underserved children. The event features DJs, appetizers, drink tastings, and other surprises.
5:30 p.m., $15
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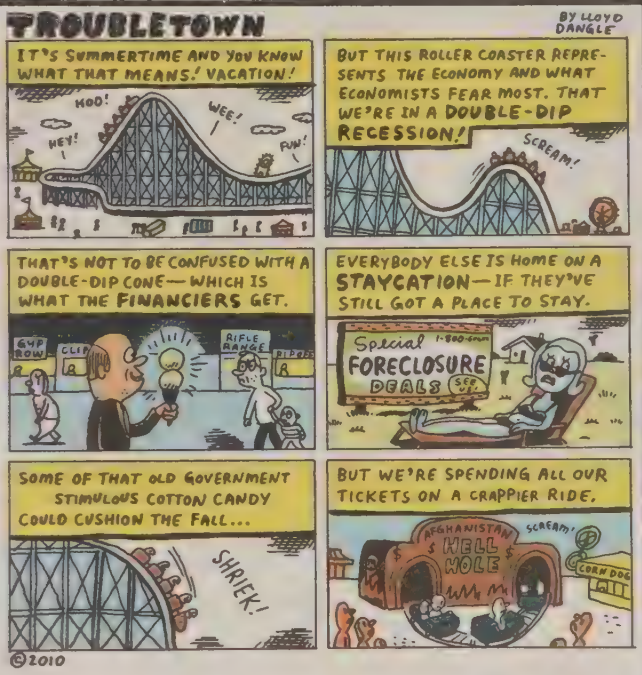

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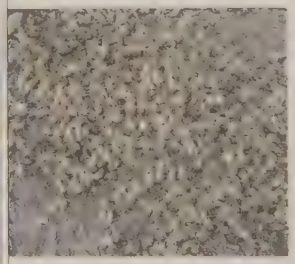
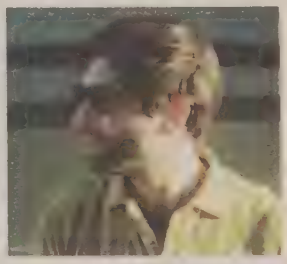


POLITICS
Bee murder at Hayes Valley Farm, Hetch Hetchy curve ball, Laura's Law reactionary backers



NOISE
Shout Out Louds, live shots of Die Antwoord at Rickshaw Stop and Michael Franti at the Greek

PIXEL VISION
Trash fashion, the Performant, Ubu Roi, Street Threads, Post:Ballet, Temple of Flux

SEX SF
The ever-steamin' Caitlin Donohue rounds up hot and sexy events this week

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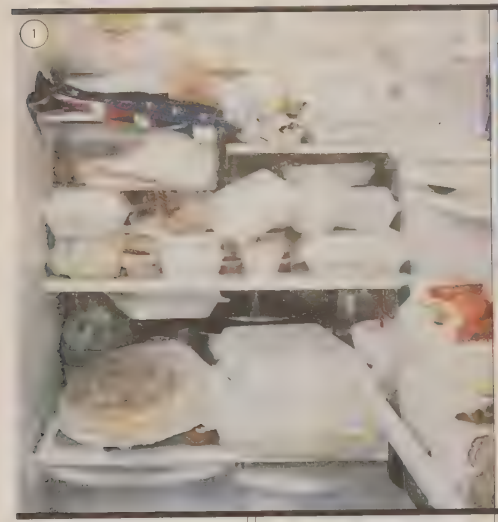

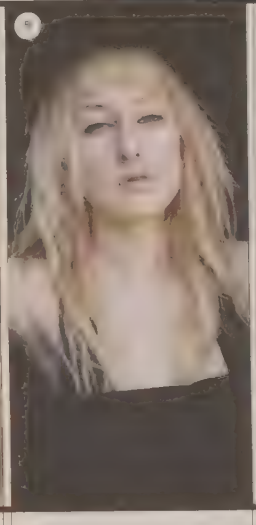

(1) Mark Menjivar's "Bartender" (see Wed/28); (2) Berkeley Kite Festival (see Sat/31); (3) Man Dance (see Fri/30); (4) Tracy Morgan (see Thurs/29); (5) Zola Jesus (see Fri/30)

MAN DANCE PHOTO BY RORY EARNSHAW; BERKELEY KITE FESTIVAL PHOTO BY TOM MCALISTER AT HIGHLINEKITES.COM; ZOLA JESUS PHOTO BY INDRA DUNIS

WEDNESDAY
JULY 28

VISUAL ART

"(Por)trait Revealed: A Juried Exhibition of Portrait Photography"
The latest RayKo offering runs the gamut of portraiture in American photography: Elvis impersonators, Arbus-esque twins (potentially Kubrick-esque too), among others. Combining *You Are What You Eat* by Mark Menjivar and Fritz Liedtke's *Skeleton in the Closet*, this exhibit looks up and down the non-proverbial food chain and an obsession with keeping up appearances: the ectomorphic, the body-dysmorphic, and finally, the contents of the American fridge. This raw size-up of eating disorders and trends might leave you hungry, so I found several nearby restaurants (Supperclub, La Briciola, Chaat Café) with decent reviews on Yelp to make you feel better — or possibly worse — about yourself. **(Ryan Lattanzio)**

Through Sept. 10
Reception 6 p.m., free
RayKo Photo Center
428 Third St., SF
(415) 495-3773
www.raykophoto.com

THURSDAY
JULY 29

COMEDY

Tracy Morgan
Getting his first major mainstream exposure on the TV show *Martin* in the mid-1990s, Tracy Morgan quickly went on to join the cast of *Saturday Night Live* based on the strengths of his hilarious comedic talents. On *SNL* he created classic characters such as the moonshine-swilling "Uncle Jemima" and performed a host of side-splitting celebrity impersonations. Now turning the tables, in a manner of speaking, he pokes fun at his own celebrity on the hit NBC show *30 Rock* in the guise of "Tracy Jordan" — Morgan has proven on the air that anything is possible, so expect nothing less when he hits the stage in front of a live audience. **(Sean McCourt)**

Thurs/29–Sat/31, 8 p.m. (also Fri/30–Sat/31, 10:15 p.m.); Sun/1, 7:30 p.m., $40.50
Cobb's Comedy Club
915 Columbus, SF
(415) 928-4320
www.livenation.com

DANCE

Napoles Ballet Theater
Napoles Ballet Theater might be considered a newbie in terms of other dance companies in the Bay Area, but this ballet-based modern dance company has a Cuban flair that says: NBT is here to stay. Under the artistic direction of Cuban choreographer Luis Napoles, NBT's "First Home Season" features six different ballets by Napoles and includes the world premiere of his newest work, *Lecuona*. Reinventing classical ballet with elements of Afro-Cuban dance, contemporary movement, theater, and jazz, it wouldn't be surprising if NBT's first full-length performance in SF marks the first of many seasons to come. **(Katie Gaydos)**

Thurs/29-Sat/31, 8 p.m.; Sun/1, 4 p.m., $20
Dance Mission Theater
3316 24th St., SF
(415) 273-4633
www.napolesballet.org

FRIDAY
JULY 30

DANCE

"ODC's Summer Sampler"
If you're in the mood for modern dance but not sure if you can commit to sitting through a full-length performance, contemporary dance company ODC has what you want. With wine sampling, hors d'oeuvres, and a one-hour showing of some of ODC's best works, its fourth annual "Summer Sampler" will satisfy your appetite without overloading your senses. The dance portion of the evening includes choreography by ODC artistic directors Brenda Way and KT Nelson, with audience favorites such as Nelson's *Stomp a Waltz (2006)*, Way's *John Somebody (1993)*, and ODC's most recent premiere: Nelson's sassy satire on feminine manners, *Waving Not Drowning (A Guide to Elegance)*. **(Gaydos)**

Through Sat/31
6:30 p.m.
(also Sat/31, 4:30 p.m.), $20
ODC Dance Commons
351 Shotwell, SF
www.odcdance.org

MUSIC

Zola Jesus
Opera is hardly the musical language of the young, but 21-year-old Nika Roza Danilova is as suited to the form as any goth kid from Madison, Wis/, can be. Danilova's opera is no *Carmen* after all; she uses the techniques but favors atmospheric noise and murky echo, letting those sounds take the foreground over her powerful voice. As a sometime member of the band Former Ghosts and one-half of the synth-pop duo Nika + Rory (where she makes a significant case for the benefits of Auto-Tune), Danilova seems primed to find herself the catalyst for a new generation of opera singers — and fans. **(Peter Galvin)**

With Wolf Parade and Moools
8 p.m., $27.50
Fox Theatre
1807 Telegraph, Oakl.
1-800-745-3000
www.thefoxoakland.com

DANCE

Man Dance
His experiences running Central Dancer Theater in Nebraska had taught Man Dance Company founder Bryon Heinrich that audiences like theme-based programs. So for the company's (sold-out) opening season last year, he let himself be inspired by ballet. This time he looked to romance in ballroom dancing. Joining his own company of seven men — women appear as guest artists — are ballroom professionals Roby Tristan, Chelsea Wielstein, and Eric Koptke. The first half of the evening offers mixed choreography, including young Alec Guthrie's award-winning trio which he will perform in pointe shoes. The second half, "It Takes Two to Tango," is a love story for ballroom and ballet dancers. **(Rita Felciano)**

Through Sat/31
8 p.m., $25–$45
San Francisco Conservatory of Music
50 Oak, SF
1-800-838-3000
www.mandance.org

VISUAL ART

"Between Currencies"
Texas-raised artist Erik Parra's collage works prominently feature photographic images with an abiding retro aesthetic (probably because they appear to be actual old photographs), dappled with blobs or confetti-like clouds of color. The appealing result is vibrant and surprising, humorous but also a bit eerie, as colors creep into a black-and-white plane like so many stills from a forgotten, more austere version of *Pleasantville* (1998). Though perhaps it's irrelevant to the ideas behind Parra's art, this critically skewed lens on images of the not-so-distant past seems curiously complementary to the recent premier of *Mad Men*'s fourth season. The gallery show opens today, but the official reception happens a week later. **(Sam Stander)**

Through Sept. 11
Reception Aug. 6, 5–8 p.m., free
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www.johanssonprojects.com

CONTINUES ON PAGE 96 »

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aug 07 } illuminated forest exhibit closing @ the lab
aug 13 } green sound finale @ de young museum

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Criminal Minds
THE LODGER
7 PM JOHN BRAHM (1944; 84 MINS) [illegible]

THE BOSTON STRANGLER
8:45 PM RICHARD FLEISCHER (1968; 116 MINS) [illegible]

CAFE MUSE OPEN FOR DINNER! 5–7 PM

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Sa 7.31 DJ FUZE
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M 8.1 "KING OF KING'S"
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Candy Claws, That Ghost
THU Jul 29 9pm, $6 GENERALISSIMO
(record release)
Ovipositor, Cartographer
FRI Jul 30 9:30pm, $7 ADDISON
Junior Panthers, Soft Bombs
SAT Jul 31 EARLY 5pm, $5 KENSETH THIBIDEAU
Danny Paul Grody, Radius
LATER 9:30PM, $6 RANTOULS
Savvy Jacks, Dirty Cupcakes
SUN Aug 1 9pm, $6 IL GATO
Bill Baird, Jesse Woods
MON Aug 2 10pm, FREE PUNK ROCK SIDESHOW
w/DJ Tragic & Duchess of Hazard
TUE Aug 3 9pm, $6 DOMINIQUE LEONE & HOLIDAY HEART
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Melted Toys
WED Aug 4 9pm, $6 THE PARTIES
Bye Bye Blackbird
Lotus Moons

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I'd bet money it's a low-budget action flick starring a retrosexual with bad hair.

Big Trouble in Little China **(see Sat/31)**
BIG TROUBLE IN LITTLE CHINA COURTESY FOX/CRITERION PICTURES

Picks CONT.»

SATURDAY
JULY 31

EVENT

Mama Calizo's Voice Factory wake for 1519 Mission
Mama Calizo's Voice Factory, having a few years ago taken over the space formerly occupied by the Jon Sims Center for the Arts, has carried forward nearly three decades of work by queer artists at 1519 Mission St. MCVF (and its new but unaffiliated off-shoot, THEOFFCENTER) promises to continue the mission of incubating queer performance, but the traditional Mission Street incubator must close its doors at the end of the month. A search for a new permanent home is underway, but in the meantime, MCVF will hold a "final performance and wake" on Saturday night to mourn, remember, and celebrate. **(Robert Avila)**

8 p.m., free
Mama Calizo's Voice Factory
1519 Mission, SF
www.mcvf.org
www.theoffcenter.org

MUSIC

Swingin' Utters
San Francisco's street-punk stalwarts the Swingin' Utters have steadily built a loyal following since they formed back in the late '80s in Santa Cruz, and the band is back in action with a new seven-inch titled "Brand New Lungs." Teeming with all the working-class attitude and piss and vinegar that fueled their early releases, the three-track single features Johnny Bonnel's wonderfully ragged vocals once again mixing with Darius Koski's searing guitars and the jackhammer rhythms of the rest of the group. A new full-length album, *Here, Under Protest*, is due in October, so catch them now before they hit the road for extended U.S. and European tours. **(McCourt)**

With Cute Lepers and Stagger and Fall
9 p.m., $16
Slim's
333 11th St., SF
(415) 255-0333
www.slimstickets.com

EVENT

25th Annual Berkeley Kite Festival
Only in Berkeley do the world's largest octopi fly through the sky in a giant octopile. No, the East Bay is not home to a freak show aquarium (as far as I know) — but it does host the annual Berkeley Kite Festival. So bust out your most impressive kites — bigger is not always better (especially when you're trying to avoid kite-on-kite collisions) — and head over to Berkeley Marina. This might be your only chance to watch 30,000 square feet of creature kites take flight, eat corn on the cob at the kite ballet, and cheer on the Berkeley Kite Wranglers in the West Coast Kite Championships. **(Gaydos)**

Through Sun/1
10 a.m.–5 p.m., free
(free shuttle service to and from North Berkeley BART, 11 a.m.–5:30 p.m.)
Berkeley Marina, Cesar Chavez State Park
www.highlinekits.com

FILM

"Midnites for Maniacs: Macho Man-iacs Quadruple Feature"
In typical Castro Theatre tradition, Midnites For Maniacs unites Bay Area movie geeks with esoteric tastes and a palate for the weird and cult-y. Saturday is "Macho Man-iacs," the quinto-mother of all manly movies with Stallone-starring *Nighthawks* (1981), Jean Claude Van Damme's breakout film *Bloodsport* (1986), and two gems from the mine of John Carpenter B-movie bliss: *They Live* (1988) and *Big Trouble in Little China* (1986). Finally, this testosterone-charged program, with no X chromosomes in sight, concludes with a "Secrete Midnite Film." All we know is it's from 1989, not on DVD, and as the website insists, "You won't believe there's a 35mm print of this!" I'd bet money it's a low-budget action flick starring a retrosexual with bad hair. **(Lattanzio)**

Films start at 2 p.m., $10
Castro Theatre
429 Castro, SF
(415) 621-6120
www.castrotheatre.com

CONTINUES ON PAGE 98 »

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TOP CRITTERS

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SATURDAY JULY 31ST 9:30PM $12 (INDIE)
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TUESDAY AUGUST 3RD 8PM $10/$12 (INDIE)
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THE STRUTS
BOBBY JOE EBOLA AND THE CHILDREN
MACNUGGITS

SATURDAY AUGUST 7TH 9:30PM $13 (ROCK) ALL AGES
THE PHENOMENAUTS
CLASSICS OF LOVE
KEPI GHOULIE ELECTRIC

SUNDAY AUGUST 8TH 8PM $25 (SONGWRITER)
JIM MESSINA: HIS MUSIC FROM LOGGINS & MESSINA, POCO AND BUFFALO SPRINGFIELD
ROB LAUFER

MONDAY AUGUST 9TH 8PM $18 (SONGWRITER)
DON MCGLASHAN (NEW ZEALAND)
ROB LAUFER

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 11TH 9:30PM $14 (INDIE/EXPERIMENTAL)
CARLA BOZULICH'S EVANGELISTA
COMMON EIDER, KING EIDER

THURSDAY AUGUST 12TH 9PM $10 (ROCK)
CHUCK RAGAN OF HOT WATER MUSIC

FRIDAY AUGUST 13TH 9:30PM $12 (AFROBEAT)
MAISHA PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS:
SANTEROBAND
DJ JEREMIAH AND THE AFROBEAT NATION
CHIEFBOIMA

SATURDAY AUGUST 14TH 9:30PM $12 (INDIE)
APPLES AND LEMONS

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 18TH 9PM $10 (INDIE)
CASIOKIDS
LIGHT POLLUTION

THURSDAY AUGUST 19TH 8PM $15 (LITERARY EVENT)
UPSTAIRS AT THE SWEDISH AMERICAN HALL
LITQUAKE 2010:
HAIR OF THE DOWNWARD DOG: YOGA DUDES NEAL POLLACK AND MARK MORFORD IN CONVERSATION

FRIDAY AUGUST 20TH 9:30PM $12 (INDIE)
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Jul. 30 at the de Young

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Regular admission applies to visit the galleries.

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Masterpieces from the Musée d'Orsay

> LISTEN

> ENJOY
dances from The Ballet Studio in the Piazzoni Murals Room from 6:30–8:30 pm.

> CELEBRATE
Transfigurations at the July Artist-in-Residence closing reception in the Kimball Education Gallery from 6:30-8:30pm

> CREATE a paper doll ballerina or a replica of Edgar Degas

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PHOENIX BOOKS 3957 24th St. San Francisco (415) 821-3477.
DOWN HOME MUSIC 10341 San Pablo Ave. El Cerrito (510) 525-2129
TICKETS.COM OR PHONE 1-800-225-2277

Sat. July 31, 8:15PM
GEOFF HOYLE
previews his new piece, GEEZER

The wonderful physical comedian/actor/mime/New Vaudevillian presents a preview of his new theater piece about aging, *Geezer*. The internationally acclaimed performer was hailed by **Newsweek Magazine** for his "**breathtaking virtuosity**." He has performed in solo and ensemble shows with Berkeley Rep (as well as many other major theaters) was the ringmaster for **Cirque de Soliel** and **starred on Broadway** as Zazu (the bird) **in Disney's "Lion King"** Don't miss this great evening of theater and comedy! *$16adv/$18door*

Sat. Aug. 21, 8:15PM – MAURICE TANI, JENN COURTNEY & 77 EL DEORA *$15adv/$17door*

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MacHomer (see Tues/3)

MACHOMER PHOTO BY MICHAEL COOPER

Picks CONT.»

MONDAY
AUGUST 2

MUSIC

Bomb the Music Industry!
If punk rock's traditional values are DIY and egalitarianism, then Jeff Rosenstock of Bomb the Music Industry! is a stone cold reactionary. He's known for blurring the line between fans and bandmates until it's more or less invisible — bring a guitar or horn to a BTMI show, and there's a good chance you'll be invited onstage. Unswerving as the band's commitment to aesthetic integrity might be, however, nobody could ever accuse BTMI of taking itself too seriously. Like their labelmates Andrew Jackson Jihad, Rosenstock and company leaven their scathing social commentary with lighthearted wit and eminently pogo-worthy arrangements. **(Zach Ritter)**

With Shinobu and Dan Potthast
9 p.m., $8
Bottom of the Hill
1233 17th St., SF
(415) 621-4455
www.bottomofthehill.com

TUESDAY
AUGUST 3

THEATER

MacHomer: The Simpsons Do Macbeth
Two of the most influential cultural icons ever, Shakespeare and *The Simpsons*, and two of art's saddest sacks, Homer and Macbeth, finally arrive together on one stage, and in the form of one actor, in *MacHomer: The Simpsons Do Macbeth*. This solo show puts the Bard in Bart as Canadian import Rick Miller performs a daunting feat of incantation — aside from that bewitching incantation "Double, double, toil and trouble" — with voice impressions of more than 50 characters from the animated series. Miller is damn'd spot on, in both his display of an uncanny vocal talent and a commitment to making Shakespeare more accessible for younger audiences. **(Lattanzio)**

Through Aug.. 7
8 p.m. (also Aug. 6–7, 10:30 p.m.), $30–$40
Bruns Amphitheater
100 California Shakespeare Way, Orinda
(510) 548-9666
www.calshakes.org SFBG

The Guardian listings deadline is two weeks prior to our Wednesday publication date. To submit an item for consideration, please include the title of the event, a brief description of the event, date and time, venue name, street address (listing cross streets only isn't sufficient), city, telephone number readers can call for more information, telephone number for media, and admission costs. Send information to Listings, the Guardian Building, 135 Mississippi St., SF, CA 94107; fax to (415) 487-2506; or e-mail (paste press release into e-mail body — no text attachments, please) to listings@sfbg.com. We cannot guarantee the return of photos, but enclosing an SASE helps. Digital photos may be submitted in jpeg format; the image must be at least 240 dpi and four inches by six inches in size. We regret we cannot accept listings over the phone.

Chatham County Line plays Hotel Utah Thurs/29.

PHOTO BY DAVE WILSON

Music listings are compiled by Paula Connelly and Cheryl Eddy. Since club life is unpredictable, it's a good idea to call ahead to confirm bookings and hours. Prices are listed when provided to us. Submit items at listings@sfbg.com. For further information on how to submit items for the listings, see Picks.

WEDNESDAY 28

ROCK/BLUES/HIP-HOP

Black Seeds, Holdup, Pacific Dub Slim's. 9pm, $15
Brian Blade and Jim Wilson Hotel Utah. 9pm, $10
Goodnight Loving, Wrong Words Knockout. 9pm, $6.
Jack Curtis Dubowsky Ensemble, Hurd Ensemble, Electrosonic Chamber Café du Nord. 8pm, $10.
Morcheeba Fillmore. 8pm, $35.
Pepper Rabbit, Candy Claws, That Ghost Hemlock Tavern. 9pm, $7.
Phosphorescent, Little Wings, J. Tillman Bottom of the Hill. 9pm, $12.
Pocahaunted, Mi Ami, Late Young, Peking Lights Rickshaw Stop. 8pm, $10.

DANCE CLUBS

Booty Call Q-Bar, 456 Castro, SF; www.bootycallwednesdays.com. 9pm. Juanita Moore hosts this dance party, featuring DJ Robot Hustle.
Club Shutter Elbo Room. 10p, $5. Goth with DJs Nako, Omar, and Justin.
Hands Down! Bar on Church. 9pm, free. With DJs Claksaarb, Mykill, and guests spinning indie, electro, house, and bangers.
Jam Fresh Wednesdays Vessel, 85 Campton, SF; (415) 433-8585. 9:30pm, free. With DJs Slick D, Chris Clouse, Rich Era, Don Lynch, and more spinning top40, mashups, hip hop, and remixes.
Mary-Go-Round Lookout, 3600 16th St, SF; (415) 431-0306. 10pm, $5. A weekly drag show with hosts Cookie Dough, Pollo Del Mar, and Suppositori Spelling.
RedWine Social Dalva. 9pm-2am, free. DJ TophOne and guests spin outernational funk and get drunk.
Respect Wednesdays End Up. 10pm, $5. Rotating DJs Daddy Rolo, Young Fyah, Irie Dole, I-Vier, Sake One, Serg, and more spinning reggae, dancehall, roots, lovers rock, and mash ups.
Synchronize Ii Pirata, 2007 16th St, SF; (415) 626-2626. 10pm, free. Psychedelic dance music with DJs Helios, Gatto Matto, Psy Lotus, Intergalactoid, and guests.

THURSDAY 29

ROCK/BLUES/HIP-HOP

Big Head Todd and the Monsters Fillmore. 8pm, $31.50.
Chatham County Line, Emily Bonn and the Vivants, Walking in Sunlight Hotel Utah. 9pm, $7.
Cormorant, Stonehaven, Mary Shelley, Deafhaven, DJ Rob Metal Thee Parkside. 9pm, $8.
A Decent Animal, Twilight Sleep Café du Nord. 9pm, $10.
Generalissimo, Ovipositor, Cartographer Hemlock Tavern. 9pm, $6.
Eric Lindell Coda. 9pm, $15.
"Kelley Stoltz' Jukebox" Amnesia. 10pm, $5. With Drunk Horse and Hot Lunch.
Mantles, Fungi Girls, Baths Knockout. 9:30pm, $6.
Negative Trend, Hashashins, Monarchs Bottom of the Hill. 9pm, $8.
Lucky Peterson Biscuits and Blues. 8 and 10pm, $20.
Tortilla Curtains Revolution Café, 3248 22nd St., SF; (415) 642-0474. 8:30pm, free.
Villagers, Bart Davenport, Greg Ashley Rickshaw Stop. 8pm, $12.

FOLK/WORLD/COUNTRY

Baraka Moon UCSF Milberry Conference Center, 500 Parnassus, SF; www.barakamoon.com. 7:30pm, $20.
Bluegrass Old Time Jam Atlas Café. 8pm, free.
Kunkel and Harris Café Royale, 800 Post, SF; (415) 641-6033. 8pm, free.

DANCE CLUBS

Afrolicious Elbo Room. 9:30pm, $5-7. DJs Pleasuremaker and Señor Oz spin Afro-tropical, samba, and funk.
Caribbean Connection Little Baobab, 3388 19th St, SF; (415) 643-3558. 10pm, $3. DJ Stevie B and guests spin reggae, soca, zouk, reggaetón, and more.
Drop the Pressure Underground SF. 6-10pm, free. Electro, house, and datafunk highlight this weekly happy hour.
Good Foot Som., 2925 16th St, SF; (415) 558-8521. 10pm, free. With DJs spinning R&B, Hip hop, classics, and soul.
Jivin' Dirty Disco Butter, 354 11th St., SF; (415) 863-5964. 8pm, free. With DJs spinning disco, funk, and classics.
Koko Puffs Koko Cocktails, 1060 Geary, SF; (415) 885-4788. 10pm, free. Dubby roots reggae and Jamaican funk from rotating DJs.
Mestiza Bollywood Café, 3376 19th St, SF; (415) 970-0362. 10pm, free. Showcasing progressive Latin and global beats with DJ Juan Data.
Peaches Skylark, 10pm, free. With an all female DJ line up featuring Deeandroid, Lady Fingaz, That Girl, and Umami spinning hip hop.
Popscene 330 Rich. 10pm, $10. Rotating DJs spinning indie, Britpop, electro, new wave, and post-punk.
Solid Thursdays Club Six. 9pm, free. With DJs Daddy Rolo and Tesfa spinning roots, reggae, dancehall, soca, and mashups.

FRIDAY 30

ROCK/BLUES/HIP-HOP

Addison, Junior Panthers, Soft Bombs Thee Parkside. 9:30pm, $7.
Bare Wires, Ty Segall, Sandwitches, DJ Fur Amnesia. 9pm, $5.
Dragons, Throwback Suburbia, Impediments, Adam Bones Thee Parkside. 9pm, $8.
Il Duetto San Francisco Italian Athletic Club, 1630 Stockton, SF; (415) 781-0165. 7pm, free.
Kinky Friedman, Carletta Sue Kay Great American Music Hall. 9pm, $30.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 101 »

KIMOS
PENTHOUSE LOUNGE
7/28 SPACE VACATION, WILDLIFE, EMERALDS, SONS OF GLORY
7/29 HIGHCASTLE, GENESIS CLIMBER, GIMLI TIT, MIND
7/30 FATHER PRESIDENT, SIDDHARTHA, HELLO EHO, SCARLET STOIC
7/31 TOKYO RAID, THE TREES, INCOGNITO SOFA LOVE
8/3 SHADOW LAKES, PERFECT MACHINES, SEMI FERAL
8/4 BIG CHAMPAGNE, TITO
8/5 OVER THE FALLS, KID WITH KATANA, SECTION M
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FRI 7/30 10PM $5 B4 11PM $10 AFTER — ON BLAZE! & THE SISTERZ OF THE UNDERGROUND PRESENT JAM ON IT WITH DJ SOUL SISTER (WWOZ/NEW ORLEANS), DJ QUEST (SCRATCH HAMSTERS), DJ CENTIPEDE (CHANGE THE BEAT), LA FEMME DEADLY VENOMS FEAT. DJS DEEANDROID, CELSKIII, LADYFINGAZ, KAT 010, TOAST WITH DJ PONY P HOSTED BY Z-MAN
SAT 7/31 10PM $10 — ELBO ROOM PRESENTS DIEGO'S UMBRELLA THE REAL NASTY LOYD FAMILY PLAYERS
SUN 8/1 9PM $6 — DUB MISSION PRESENTS THE BEST IN DUB, DUBSTEP, ROOTS & DANCEHALL W/ DJ SEP, MANEESH THE TWISTER (SURYA DUB) & GUEST ROOMMATE (OSC/BABYLON SYSTEM/ARGON/HOLLOW POINT)
MON 8/2 9PM $6 — $2 DRINK SPECIALS WE LANDED ON THE MOON (LOUISIANA) FADED PAPER FIGURES
TUE 8/3 9PM/$7 — ELBO ROOM PRESENTS MUCHO AXE FOGO NA ROUPA
WED 8/4 9PM $10/$12 — LUCIFER'S HAMMER PRESENTS MONDO GENERATOR FEAT NICK OLIVERI (EX QUEENS OF THE STONE AGE), TWEAK BIRD IT'S CASUAL ADV TIX: WWW.BROWNPAPERTICKETS.COM
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THU 8/5 AFROLICIOUS
FRI 8/6 THE ZEROS/ CORVETTE (FEAT NIKKI CORVETTE)
SAT 8/7 SAT NITE SOUL PARTY
SUN 8/8 DUB MISSION: DJ SEP, J BOOGIE
SAT 8/14 EARLY SHOW: MALEVOLENT CREATION
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THU AUG 5th — william fitzsimmons — doors 7:30 $18
FRI AUG 6th — ORGONE — doors 8:30 $13 ADV $15 DOOR
SAT AUG 7th — THEE OH SEES — doors 8:30 $13 ADV $15 DOOR
MON AUG 9th — MONDAY MOVIE — HOT TUB TIME MACHINE — doors 7:30 FREE-2 DRINK MIN
TUE AUG 10th — FRAZEY FORD (The Be Good Tanyas) — doors 7:30 $15 ADV $17 DOOR
MON AUG 16th — Dezarie — doors 8:30 $15 ADV $17 DOOR
WED 8.18/ DOORS 7:30/ $20 BoDEANS
THU 8.19/ DOORS 7:30/ $12 ADV • $14 DOOR DARKER MY LOVE SONNY & THE SUNSETS
FRI 8.20/ DOORS 8:30/ $13 ADV • $15 DOOR NEW ORLEANS BINGO SHOW KIM BOEKBINDER (VERSAILLES LIES)
SAT 8.21/ DOORS 8:30/ $13 ADV • $15 DOOR ONE NIGHT ONLY... A REUNION COOL WATER CANYON
THU 8.26/ DOORS 7:30/ $18 REVOLVER PRESENTS VOLBEAT DOMMIN
FRI 8.27/ DOORS 8:30/ $35 BERES HAMMOND AND THE HARMONY HOUSE MUSICIANS INNER CIRCLE CULTURE FEAT KENYATTA HILL
SAT 8.28/ DOORS 8:30/ $15 ADV • $17 DOOR NORTEC COLLECTIVE PRESENTS: BOSTICH + FUSSIBLE LOQUAT
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Tartufi plays the Rickshaw Stop Sun/1.
PHOTO BY JASON MITCHELL AND STACEY RANSOM

FRI/30
ROCK/BLUES/HIP-HOP
CONT››

Griddle, Boy in the Bubble, Grand Lodge Red Devil Lounge. 9pm, $8.
Interstellar Grains, Sean Tabor Band Café du Nord. 9:30pm, $10.
Kacey Johansing Art Tap, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mission, SF; (415) 978-2787, www.ybca.org. 6pm, free.
Level 42, World Famous Rick and Russ Show Regency Ballroom. 9pm, $27-44.
Connie Lim, Blackstone Heist, Narwhal Brigade Hotel Utah. 9pm, $8.
Mad Caddies, B Foundation, Kung Pow Bottom of the Hill. 9:30pm, $15.
Mission Players Grant and Green. 9pm, free.
Lucky Peterson Biscuits and Blues. 8 and 10pm, $20.
» **Soilwork, Death Angel, Augury, Mutiny Within** Slim's. 8pm, $23.
Yung Mars Project with 40 Love Coda. 10pm, $10.

JAZZ/NEW MUSIC

Audium 9 1616 Bush, SF; (415) 771-1616. 8:30pm, $15.
Black Market Jazz Orchestra Top of the Mark. 9pm, $10.
Larry Carlton Trio Yoshi's San Francisco. 8 and 10pm, $22-32.

FOLK/WORLD/COUNTRY

Jessica Fichot Red Poppy Art House. 9pm, $15.
Other Room Revolution Café. 3248 22nd St., SF; (415) 642-0474. 8:45pm, free.
Ultra World X-tet Old First Church, 1751 Sacramento, SF; (415) 474-1608. 8pm, $14-$17.

DANCE CLUBS

Down to Earth Rickshaw Stop. 10pm, $15 With J Boogie, Polish Ambassador, and Alxndr.
Exhale, Fridays Project One Gallery, 251 Rhode Island, SF; (415) 465-2129. 5pm, $5 Happy hour with art, fine food, and music with Vin Sol, King Most, DJ Centipede, and Shane King.
Fat Stack Fridays Koko Cocktails, 1060 Geary, SF; (415) 885-4788. 10pm, free. With rotating DJs Romanowski, B-Love, Tomas, Toph One, and Vinnie Esparza.
Fubar Fridays Butter, 354 11th St., SF; (415) 863-5964. 6pm, $5. With DJs spinning retro

CONTINUES ON PAGE 102 ››

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Fri 7/30 9PM $8 — THE DRAGONS (REPUBLIC SHOW), THROWBACK SUBURBIA, THE IMPEDIMENTS, ADAM BONES
Sat 7/31 3PM FREE ALL AGES — HAPPY HOUR SHOW: THE TEMPERMENTALS, ROCKFIGHT, PSYCHOLOGY OF GENOCIDE, THE HUKAHOLIX
9PM FREE — HAPPY HOUR PRICES ALL NIGHT WITH GUEST BARTENDER STAN!
Sun 8/1 4PM FREE — TWANG SUNDAY
8PM $12 — T-MODEL FORD & GRAVEL ROAD, HORROR-X
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FRIDAY, 7/30 · 9 PM $8 TIX AT TICKETWEB
CONNIE LIM, Blackstone Heist, Narwhal Brigade
SATURDAY, 7/31 · 10 PM $8 TIX AT TICKETWEB
RAELIN, Brooks Was Here
SUNDAY, AUGUST 1 · MATINEE 3 PM $6
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EVENING SHOW: 8 PM $7
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OPEN MIC WITH JJ SCHULTZ
TUESDAY, 8/3 · 9 PM $7 TIX AT TICKETWEB
OLIN & THE MOON, Leif Vollebekk +special guest
WEDNESDAY, 8/4 · 8 PM $8 TIX AT TICKETWEB
THE LAST GUN SHOP, Justin Ancheta, Stephanie Barrak
THURSDAY, 8/5 · 8 PM $8 TIX AT TICKETWEB
HEATHER COMBS, Stewart Lewis, Chi McClean, Austin Willacy
FRIDAY, 8/6 · 9 PM $10 TIX AT TICKETWEB
CHRIS PIERCE, Jim Bianco +special guest
SATURDAY, 8/7 · EARLY SHOW: 8 PM $10 TICKETS AT TICKETWEB
RUTH GERSON
LATER: 10 PM $8 TIX AT TICKETWEB
THE MOANIN' DOVE, John Heart Jackie, The Beehavers
SUNDAY, 8/8 · SURF SUNDAY MATINEE! 3 PM $10 TIX AT TICKETWEB
THE SPACE COSSACKS, Frankie & The Pool Boys, The Atomic Mosquitos

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Sat 7.31 • 9pm BESO: FUNKY C DONOVAN • HECTOR GARZA
Thur 8.05 • 9pm • FREE! SFBG BEST OF THE BAY CHUCK PROPHET & THE MISSION EXPRESS
Thur 8.13 • 9pm JIMMY CLIFF
Fri 8.27 • 9pm THE NEW BEAT ELECTRIC DANCE SHOW!
Upcoming Events
8.20 Dirtybird
9.03 Miami Horror LIVE!
9.18 Kele of Bloc Party + Does It Offend you, Yeah?!
10.9 Chapterhouse + Ulrich Schnauss
10.21 Recoil + Alan Wilder of Depeche Mode
info@mezzaninest.com 444 Jessie St | SF | 21+

FRI/30

DANCE CLUBS

CONT>>

mashup remixes.
Club Dragon Club Eight, 1151 Folsom, SF; www.eightsf.com. 9pm, $8. A gay Asian paradise. Featuring two dance floors playing dance and hip hop, smoking patio, and 2 for 1 drinks before 10pm.
Good Life Fridays Apartment 24, 440 Broadway, SF; (415) 989-3434. 10pm, $10. With DJ Brian spinning hip hop, mashups, and top 40.
Hot Chocolate Milk. 9pm, $5. With DJs Big Fat Frog, Chardmo, DuseRock, and more spinning old and new school funk.
Jam On It Elbo Room. 10pm, $5. Hip-hop with DJ Soul Sister, DJ Quest, DJ Centipede, La Femme Deadly Venoms, and more.
Meat vs. Death Guild DNA Lounge. 9:30pm, $4-8. Industrial, gothic, electro, and more with Decay, BaconMonkey, Joe Radio, Melting Girl, and Netik
Rockabilly Fridays Jay N Bee Club, 2736 20th St, SF; (415) 824-4190. 9pm, free. With DJs Rockin' Raul, Oakie Oran, Sergio Iglesias, and Tanoa "Samoa Boy" spinning 50s and 60s Doo Wop, Rockabilly, Bop, Jive, and more.
Some Thing The Stud. 10pm, $7. VivvyAnne Forevermore, Glamamore, and DJ Down-E give you fierce drag shows and afterhours dancing.
Teenage Craze Dance Party Knockout. 10pm, $3. Twist, surf, and garage with DJs Sergio Iglesias, Russell Quann, and dX the Funky Gran Paw.
Twelves, Marc Romboy, John Tejada Mezzanine. 9pm, $20.

SATURDAY 31

ROCK/BLUES/HIP-HOP

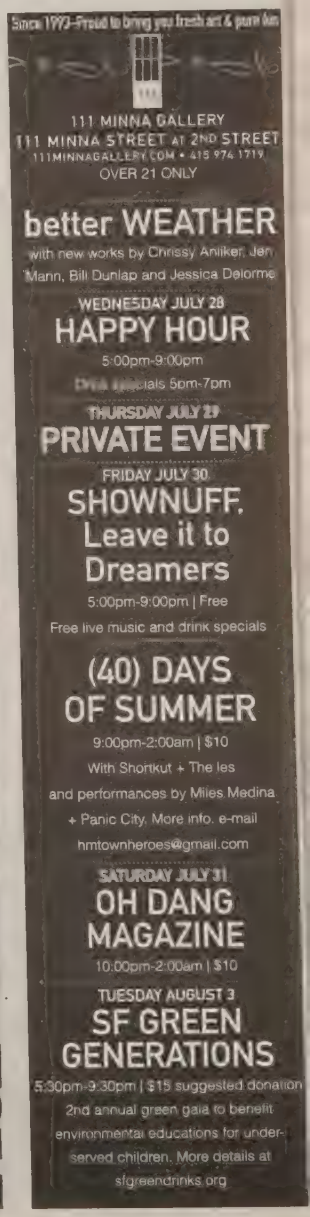
As I Lay Dying, Between the Buried and Me, Underoath Warfield. 4:30pm, $32. Also with Bless the Fall, Acacia Strain, Architects, Cancer Bats, and War of Ages.
Dave Rude Band, FlexXBronco, Monte Casino Bottom of the Hill. 9:30pm, $12.
Delgado Brothers Biscuits and Blues. 8 and 10pm, $20.
Destruments Coda. 10pm, $10.
Quinn Deveaux Revolution Café, 3248 22nd St., SF; (415) 642-0474. 8:45pm, free.
Diego's Umbrella, Real Nasty, Loyd Family Players Elbo Room. 10pm, $10.
» **400 Blows, Turks, Swann Danger** Knockout. 10pm, $8.
Go Van Gogh, Lee Vilensky Trio Blue Macaw, 2565 Mission, SF; (415) 920-0577. 9pm.
Hooks, Mongoloid, Minks El Rio. 9pm, $8.
Hudson Criminal, Death Valley High, King Loses Crown, Weapons of the Future Submission, 2183 Mission, SF; www.sf-submission.com. 8pm, $7.
Mad Maggies Blackthorn Tavern, 834 Irving, SF; (415) 564-6627. 10pm.
» **Nathaniel Rateliff, Pearly Gate Music, Kira Lynn Cain** Café du Nord. 9:30pm, $12.
Rantouls, Saucy Jacks, Dirty Cupcakes Hemlock Tavern. 9:30pm, $6.
Swingin' Utters, Cute Lepers, Stagger and Fall Slim's. 9pm, $16.
Tempermentals, Rock Fight, Psychology of Genocide, Hukaholix Thee Parkside. 3pm, free.
Kenseth Thibideau, Danny Paul Grody, Radius Hemlock Tavern. 5pm, $5.

JAZZ/NEW MUSIC

Audium 9 1616 Bush, SF; (415) 771-1616. 8:30pm, $15.
Eric Kurtzrock Trio Ana Mandara, Ghirardelli Square, 891 Beach, SF; (415) 771-6800. 8pm, free.
Giovenco Project Coda. 7pm, $7.
Larry Carlton Trio Yoshi's San Francisco. 8 and 10pm, $25-32.

FOLK/WORLD/COUNTRY

Malo, Lava, Blanca Great American Music Hall 8pm, $25.
Angus Martin and Gabriel Ekedal, Lua Cheia Amnesia. 6pm, $8-10.
Doug Martin Café Royale, 800 Post, SF; (415) 641-6033. 8pm, free.
Orquesta en Bumba The Ramp, 855 Terry Francois, SF; (415) 6221-2378. 5pm, $10.



Nathaniel Rateliff plays Cafe Du Nord Sat/31.

Pete Devine Jug Band, Quinn Deveaux Amnesia. 9:30pm, $8-10.

DANCE CLUBS

Bar on Church 9pm. Rotating DJs Foxxee, Joseph Lee, Zhaldee, Mark Andrus, and Nuxx.
Ceremony DNA Lounge. 10pm. House music.
DeeCee's Soul Shakedown Club Six. 9pm, $15. With DJs J Davey, Honor Roll, Irie Dole, I-Vier, Dans One, Sake One, Pam the Funktress, Ant One, Zita, and many more spinning hip hop, funk, electro, dancehall, reggae, and more.
Go Bang! Paradise Lounge. Recreating the diversity and freedom of the 70's/ 80's disco nightlife with DJs Said, Carnitas, Brown Amy, Steve Fabus, Sergio, and more.
HYP Club Eight, 1151 Folsom, SF; www.eightsf.com. 10pm, free. Gay and lesbian hip hop party, featuring DJs spinning the newest in the top 40s hip hop and hyphy.
Rock City Butter, 354 11th St., SF; (415) 863-5964. 6pm, $5 after 10pm. With DJs spinning party rock.
Spirit Fingers Sessions 330 Ritch. 9pm, free. With DJ Morse Code and live guest performances.
Three Kinds of Stupid Dance Party Rickshaw Stop. 9pm, $12. With live sets by Memoryhouse and Baths, plus resident DJs Brother Grimm, Chris Baty, and BAS.

SUNDAY 1

ROCK/BLUES/HIP-HOP

"Cabaret Showcase Showdown" Café du Nord. 8pm, $15. With Tom Shaw Trio and the Whoa Nellies.
Dark Dark Dark, Indianna Hale, Fight or Flight Amnesia. 9pm, $7-10.
Il Gato, Bill Baird, Jesse Woods Hemlock Tavern. 9pm, $6.
Rickie Lee Jones, Meklit Hadero Sigmund Stern Grove, 19th Ave at Sloat, SF; www.sterngrove.org. 2pm, free.
Squeeze, English Beat Fillmore. 8pm, $42.50.
T-Model Ford and Gravel Road, Horror-X Thee Parkside. 8pm, $12.
Tarfufi, Silian Rail, Honeycomb Rickshaw Stop. 8pm, $10.

FOLK/WORLD/COUNTY

Los Compas The Ramp, 855 Terry Francois, SF; (415) 6221-2378. 5pm, $6.
VW Brothers Coda. 8pm, $10.

DANCE CLUBS

DiscoFunk Mashups Cat Club. 10pm, free. House and 70's music.
Dub Mission Elbo Room. 9pm, $6. Dub, roots, and classic dancehall with DJs Sep, Maneesh the Twister, and guest Roommate.
For the Future Café Cocomo, 650 Indiana,

CONTINUES ON PAGE 104 »

RICKSHAW STOP
155 Fell St @ Van Ness

wed 28 8 pm $10 — POCAHAUNTED
MI AMI
LATE YOUNG
PEAKING LIGHTS

thu 29 8 pm $10/$12 — VILLAGERS (DOMINO RECORDS)
BART DAVENPORT(SOLO)
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fri 30 10 pm $10 w rsvp/$15 — DOWN TO EARTH
J-BOOGIE
THE POLISH AMBASSADOR
ALXNDR

sat 31 9 pm $10 adv/$12 — THREE KINDS OF STUPID WITH MEMORY HOUSE
BATHS
DJS BROTHER GRIMM
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tue 03 8 pm $10 — @SFFALL PRESENTS QUITZOW
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8/5 - TORMENTA TROPICAL PRESENTS ZZK RECORDS SUMMER TOUR W/ TREMOR, EL RENEGOLDN, CHAUCHA VIA CIRCUITO, EL S PLUS AMOSTS ON TAPS (LIVE SET), DISCO SHAWN
8/6 - PARTY CORPS BENEFIT FOR AT THE CROSSROADS W/ MOCHIPET, W/ JOEY MOUSEPAD AND FREDDIE FUTURE, RAASHAN AHMAD (CROWN CITY ROCKERS), J-BOOGIE
8/7 - MIDAMIA RECORDS PRESENTS SOCIAL STUDIES (CD RELEASE!), MAUS HAUS, 60 WATT KID, MONTRA

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$5 BLOODY MARY PINTS

WED 7/28
8P THE GEMTOPS, THE BAD MOONS, ROSSANA (ROCK / AMERICANA) $5
8P OMG! KAROAKE NO$

THU 7/29
8P ARTLARKING- ART AND MUSIC $8
9P DJ SURESH & NAGABEATZ (WORLD MUSIC) NO$

FRI 7/30
5 30 FREE OYSTERS ON THE HALF SHELL
6PM-2A DJ'S CARMEN & MIRANDAS FRUIT STAND (WORLD, FUNK, R&B, POP) NO$
7 30P RED HOTS BURLESQUE
9P MAKRU, SANG MATIZ (LATIN FLAMENCO / RUMBA) $6

SAT 7/31
3P THE LOVE DIMENSION, THESE HILLS OF GOLD, NECTARINE PIE, THE AERSOLS, B AND NOT B (INDIE) $5 FREE BBQ
9P THE HOOKS (CD RELEASE), MONGOLOID, THE MINKS (ROCK) $8
10P SOUP LADY

SUN 8/1
3P SALSA SUNDAY WITH CANDELA! FREE DANCE CLASS AND BBQ

MON 8/2
DOLLAR DAYS $1 PABST/$2 WELL
7P UPSTAIRS DOWNSTAIRS, VANITY THEFT, CAMP OUT (ELECTRO / INDIE) $5
9P RADICAL VINYL (DJ FUNK/OLDIES/PUNK) NO$

TUE 8/3
8P THE HOBO GOBLINS, FOR FEAR THE HEARTS OF MEN ARE BREAKING, GROOMING THE CROW (AMERICANA) $5

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FRI. JULY 30 • DOORS 7 / SHOW 8 • $21 ADV. / $23 DOOR
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DEATH ANGEL
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SAT. JULY 31 • DOORS 8 / SHOW 9 • $16 ADV. / $16 DOOR
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WED. AUG. 4 • DOORS 7:30 / SHOW 8 • $23 ADV. / $26 DOOR
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CARLETTA SUE KAY

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SUNDAY/1

DANCE CLUBS

CONT.>>

SF; (415) 824-6910. 1pm, $15. With DJs Halo, David Harness, Moniker, Adnan, Cali, and more. A benefit for NextAid.
Fresh Ruby Skye. 6pm, $25. With DJs Jamie J. Sanchez and Lee Decker. Benefitting Healing Waters.
Gloss Sundays Trigger, 2344 Market, SF; (415) 551-CLUB. 7pm. With DJ Hawthorne spinning house, funk, soul, retro, and disco.
Honey Soundsystem Paradise Lounge. 8pm-2am. "Dance floor for dancers – sound system for lovers." Got that?
Jock! Lookout, 3600 16th St, SF; (415) 431-0306. 3pm, $2. This high-energy party raises money for LGBT sports teams.
Kick It Bar on Church. 9pm. Hip-hop with DJ Zax.
Lowbrow Sunday Delirium. 1pm, free. DJ Roost Uno and guests spinning club hip hop, indie, and top 40s.
Religion Bar on Church. 3pm. With DJ Nikita.
Stag AsiaSF. 6pm, $5. Gay bachelor parties are the target demo of this weekly erotic tea dance.

MONDAY 2

ROCK/BLUES/HIP-HOP

Bomb the Music Industry!, Shinobu, Dan Potthast Bottom of the Hill. 9pm, $8.
We Landed On the Moon Elbo Room. 9pm.

DANCE CLUBS

Black Gold Koko Cocktails, 1060 Geary, SF; (415) 885-4788. 10pm-2am, free. Senator Soul spins Detroit soul, Motown, New Orleans R&B, and more — all on 45!
Death Guild DNA Lounge. 9:30pm, $3-5. Gothic, industrial, and synthpop with Decay, Joe Radio, and Melting Girl.
Krazy Mondays Beauty Bar. 10pm, free. With DJs Ant-1, $ir-Tipp, Ruby Red I, Lo, and Gelo spinning hip hop.
M.O.M. Madrone Art Bar. 6pm, free. With DJ Gordo Cabeza and guests playing all Motown every Monday.
Manic Mondays Bar on Church. 9pm. Drink 80-cent cosmos with Djs Mark Andrus and Dangerous Dan.
Musik for Your Teeth Revolution Café, 3248 22nd St., SF; (415) 642-0474. 5pm, free. Soul cookin' happy hour tunes with DJ Antonino Musco.
Network Mondays Azul Lounge, One Tillman Pl, SF; www.inhousetalent.com. 9pm, $5. Hip-hop, R&B, and spoken word open mic, plus featured performers.
Skylarking Skylark. 10pm, free. With resident DJs I & I Vibration, Beatnok, and Mr. Lucky and weekly guest DJs.

TUESDAY 3

ROCK/BLUES/HIP-HOP

Aunt Dracula Hemlock Tavern. 9pm, $6.
Melissa Culross Café Royale, 800 Post, SF; (415) 641-6033. 8pm, free.
Dopecharge, Bog People, Autistic Youth, Verraterisch Knockout. 9pm, $5.
Lindy LaFontaine Grant and Green. 9pm, free.
Matisyahu, Dub Trio Regency Ballroom. 8pm, $32.
Quitzow, Battlehooch, Setting Sun Rickshaw Stop. 8pm, $10.
Watson Twins, Ferraby Lionheart Café du Nord. 8pm, $12.

FOLK/WORLD/COUNTRY

Mucho Axe, Fogo Na Roupa Elbo Room. 9pm, $7

DANCE CLUBS

Alcoholocaust Presents Argus Lounge. 9pm, free. With DJs Johnny Repo and Taypoleon.
Eclectic Company Skylark, 9pm, free. DJs Tones and Jaybee spin old school hip hop, bass, dub, glitch, and electro.
Rock Out Karaoke! Amnesia. 7:30pm. With Glenny Kravitz.
Share the Love Trigger, 2344 Market, SF; (415) 551-CLUB. 5pm, free. With DJ Pam Hubbuck spinning house.
Womanizer Bar on Church. 9pm. With DJ Nuxx. SFBG

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M Monday Massacre DJ Shane In-Blood & DJ BBRinkies & Guests "HEAVY"
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SAT 7/31 MOONSTOMPER REGGAE NIGHT W/ TOZZ GRAVE AND DJ CHAOS 10PM
SUN 8/1 DJ SQUID 80'S ALT-SKA-PUNK 8PM
MON 8/2 DJ SERIOUS LEISURE 10PM
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9:30PM
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7/29 - MAHGEETAH
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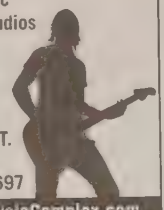

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tomorrow! Thurs, July 29 (10:30pm)
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featuring **ISE LYFE** live

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LARRY CARLTON TRIO

this weekend! Sat, July 31 (10pm)
MACY GRAY DJ SET

this weekend! Sun, August 1
BONEY JAMES

next week! Mon, August 2
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August 10-12
YOSHIDA BROTHERS

Thurs, July 29 *tomorrow!*
LOCURA

This Weekend!
July 30-Aug 1
JOHN PIZZARELLI

Mon, August 2 *next week!*
POLYHYMNIA

Tues, August 3 *next week!*
LYDIA PENSE & COLD BLOOD

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Thurs, August 12
ROBIN McKELLE

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UPCOMING EVENTS

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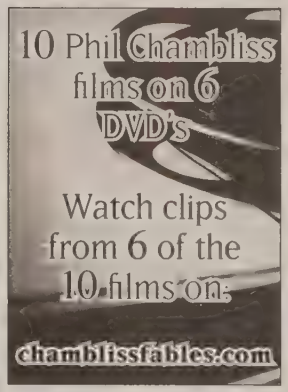

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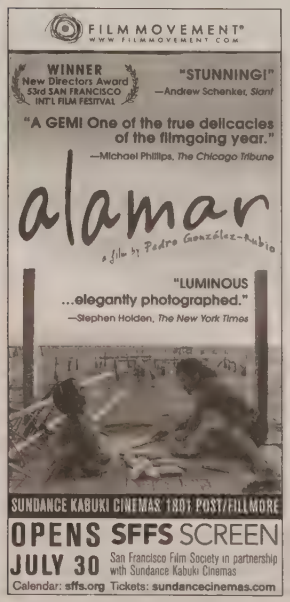

Ron Livingston and Rick Overton's insane beard co-star in *Dinner for Schmucks*, out Fri/30.
PHOTO BY MERIE WEISMILLER WALLACE

Film listings are edited by Cheryl Eddy. Reviewers are Kimberly Chun, Michelle Devereaux, Max Goldberg, Dennis Harvey, Johnny Ray Huston, Erik Morse, Louis Peitzman, Lynn Rapoport, Ben Richardson, and Matt Sussman. For rep house showtimes, see Rep Clock. For first-run showtimes, see Movie Guide at www.sfbg.com. Due to early deadlines for this issue, theater information was incomplete at press time. For complete film listings, see www.sfbg.com

SAN FRANCISCO JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

The 30th San Francisco Jewish Film Festival runs through Aug 9 at the Castro, 429 Castro, SF; Roda Theatre, 2025 Addison, Berk; CineArts@ Palo Alto Square, 3000 El Camino Real Bldg Six, Palo Alto; and Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center, 118 Fourth St, San Rafael. Tickets (most shows $11) are available by calling (415) 256-TIXX or visiting www.sfjff.org. All times pm unless otherwise indicated.

WED/28

Castro *Mrs. Moskowitz and the Cats* 11:30am. *Ingelore* with *"Surviving Hitler: A Love Story"* 1:15. *Budrus* 4. *Arab Labor: Season Two* 6:30. *Army of Crime* 9.

THURS/29

Castro "Panel: Is Dialogue Possible? How Films Help Us Talk About Israel (...Or Not) 11:30am. *Bugsy* 1. *Sayed Kashua: Forever Scared* with *Arab Labor: Season One, Episode 10* 3:45. *A Film Unfinished* 8:45. *The Klezmatics: On Holy Ground* with *"Seltzer Works"* 8:45.

SAT/31

CineArts *A Small Act* noon. *Jews and Baseball: An American Love Story* 2. *A Film Unfinished* 4:15. *Saviors in the Night* 6:45. *Father's Footsteps* 9.
Roda *Bena* noon. *"Arab Labor: Season Two"* 2. "Utopia in Four Movements" (live event) 4:30. *The Klezmatics: On Holy Ground* with *"Seltzer Works"* 7. *Protektor* 9:45.

SUN/1

CineArts *My So Called Enemy* noon. *My Perestroika* 2. *The Worst Company in the World* with *"Baabaa the Sheep"* 4. *Anita* 6:30. *"Arab Labor: Season Two"* 8:45.
Roda "Grace Paley: Collected Shorts" (shorts program) noon. *Jews and Baseball: An American Love Story* 2:15. *A Film Unfinished* 4:15. *Budrus* 6:45. *Gruber's Journey* 9:15.

MON/2

CineArts *Ahead of Time* 2. *Surrogate* with *"Guided Tour"* 4. *Te Extraño (I Miss You)* with *"Escape from Suburbia"* 6:15. *Bena* 8:30.
Roda *Long Distance* with *"You Can Dance"* 2:15. *Sayed Kashua: Forever Scared* with *"Arab Labor: Season One, Episode 10"* 4. *A Room and a Half* 6. "Jews in Shorts: Focus on Israeli Narratives" (shorts program) 8:45

TUES/3

CineArts *Mrs. Moscowitz and the Cats* 2. *Long Distance* with *"You Can Dance"* 4. *The Wolberg Family* with *"Perfect Mother"* 6. *Jaffa* with *"The Orange"* 8.
Roda *9 Years Later* with *"Perin's Dual Identity"* 2:30. *Amos Oz: The Nature of Dreams* 4:30. *Anita* 6:30. *Illusiones Opticas* with *"What About Me?"* 8:45.

OPENING

Alamar Pedro González-Rubio's gorgeous *Alamar* ("to the sea") is set between landscapes (land and sea) and ways of telling (fiction and documentary). The bare frame of a plot places a young boy with his father and grandfather, Mayan fishermen working the Mexican Caribbean. The sweetness of this idyll is tempered by its provisional bounds: the boy will return to his mother in Rome at the end of his compressed experience of a father's love. Every shot is earned: there are several in which the camera bucks with the boat, physically linked to the actors' experience. The child is at an age of discovery, and González-Rubio channels this openness by fixing on the details of the fisher's elegant way of life and the environmental contingencies of their home at sea. (1:13) *Sundance Kabuki.* (Goldberg)
Cats and Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore Secret agent pets return, in 3-D. (1:40)
Charlie St. Cloud Zac Efron goes boating. (1:40)
Countdown to Zero This documentary takes on the nuclear arms race. (1:30) *Embarcadero, Shattuck.*
Dark House On a dare, a little girl enters the house "where the weird kids live," and finds a slew of children slaughtered, their murdering foster mother in suicidal death throes. Fourteen years later, Claire (Meghan Ory) is plagued by nightmares. Her therapist has the bright idea that she should "face the past" and unlock her repressed memories by visiting the house in question. Yeah, that'll work. The arrival of high-tech spookhouse impresario Walston (Jeffrey Combs) provides a convenient plan of action, as he wants to hire her entire college acting class as live performers in a press preview of his latest creepy creation, a house of holographic horrors tastelessly located in the still-vacant site of that child massacre. Natch, before you can say "avenging evil spirit," the illusory frights turn into cast-winnowing real perils. This allows director-scenarist Darin Scott (who previously wrote 1995 horror omnibus *Tales from the Hood*) to toss in a bevy of genre familiars, from zombies to an axe-wielding scary clown. But *Dark House* isn't meta-horror so much as a fairly ordinary slasher that's more silly than it is self-aware (let alone scary). Meh. (1:26) *Opera Plaza.* (Harvey)
Dinner for Schmucks When he attracts favorable notice and a possible promotion from his corporate boss, Tim (Paul Rudd) is invited to an

CONTINUES ON PAGE 110 »

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OPENING

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annual affair in which executives compete to see who can dig up the freakiest loser dweeb for everyone to snicker at. He literally runs into the perfect candidate: Barry (Steve Carrell), an IRS employee whose hobby is making elaborate tableaux with stuffed dead nice in tiny human clothes. He's also the sort of person who, in trying to be helpful, inevitably wreaks havoc on the unlucky person being helped. Which means the 24 hours or so before the "Biggest Idiot" contest provide plenty of time for well-intentioned Barry to nearly destroy Tim's relationship with a girlfriend (Stephanie Szostak), reunite him with Crazy Stalker Chick (Lucy Punch), and imperil his wooing of a multimillion-dollar account. Director Jay Roach (of the *Austin Powers* and *Meet the Fockers* series) has a full load of comedy talent on board here. So why are the results so tepid? This remake softens the bite of Francis Veber's 1998 original French *The Dinner Game* by making Tim not a yuppie scumbag but a nice guy who just happens to have a jerk's job (his company seizes ailing firms and liquidates them), and who doesn't really *want* to expose hapless Barry to humiliation. But even with that satirical angle removed and a wider streak of sentimentality, it should cough up more laughs than it does. (1:50) (Harvey)

Farewell In *Joyeux Noel* (2005) director Christian Carion's new drama, a KGB agent slips top-secret documents to a French businessman, hoping to bring about the end of the Cold War. Fun fact: Fred Ward plays Reagan. (1:53) *Embarcadero, Shattuck, Smith Rafael.*

Kisses Sweet as a lingering caress or a smooch swiftly snatched, *Kisses* is besotted with the feel, lights, and ambiance of Dublin and the sensation of being young, free, and all too ready to plunge into the mysteries of adulthood. Next-door neighbors living on the outskirts of the big city, Kylie (Kelly O'Neill) and Dylan (Shane Curry) have a few things in common: they're both children forced to grow up far faster than they like. When Dylan strikes back at his abusive father, the two flee, vowing never to return. Their goal is to find Dylan's older brother, who ran from their father's beatings long ago. And through their street-wise but still innocent eyes — and *Kisses*' gradual, graceful transition from black and white to color — Dublin takes on a subtle magic, one that darkens as the night and its dangers progress. To his credit, director and writer Lance Daly avoids striving for epic statements with *Kisses*. Rather, he keeps his unashamedly romantic focus tight on the moment and his two riveting leads, coaxing a wonderful performance in particular from O'Neill, whose angelic contenance, giving-as-good-as-it-gets lip, and bulldog feistiness stays with you long after *Kisses*' tender touch has faded. (1:15) (Chun)

Orlando The director Sally Potter recently revealed during a panel discussion in New York that she was once told, "There's only one golden rule: nobody should ever try to adapt Virginia Woolf!" Eighteen years later Potter's fantastic *Orlando* (1992) stands as proof to the contrary. As whip smart and thick with history and allusion as Woolf's 1928 "biography" of its titular time-traveling, gender-bending hero, *Orlando* feels less like an adaptation of its source material than a collaboration with it. While the sumptuous costumes and lush production design certainly do their part, Woolf's sharp humor and nuanced observations about art, nature, gender, and, well, nearly everything else, truly come alive thanks to Tilda Swinton's performance in the title role. With her androgynous features, dry delivery, and winking, direct addresses to the camera, Swinton carries *Orlando*'s journey from male consort to Queen Elizabeth (Quentin Crisp, in a brilliant bit of casting that would be his last onscreen appearance), to the most desired woman in 18th century London, to modern day published author and mother, with the practiced ease of a prima ballerina. *Orlando* elevated the flame-haired actor from Derek Jarman-muse to full-blown art house star. Come and see why. (1:33) *Lumiere, Shattuck.* (Sussman)

Winnebago Man This documentary tells the strange story of Jack Rebney, a YouTube sensation (thanks to a cussin'-tastic RV commercial outtake) who has no idea of his viral fame. (1:15) *Shattuck.*

ONGOING

Agora (2:06)

Anton Chekhov's The Duel Conformity vs. freedom, small-town whispers vs. the heavy hand of the law — Georgian director Dover Kosashvili successfully teases out some of the tensions in the Anton Chekhov novella, encapsulating the provincial pressures brought to bear on deviants and nonconformists during a steamy summer in a seaside resort town in the Caucasus. Dissolute civil servant and would-be intellectual Laevsky (Andrew Scott) is in the bind, as he gripes to the town doctor Samoylenko (Niall Buggy). Laevsky has everything he wants: he's coaxed the creamy, married Nadya (Fiona Glascott) into living with him openly, yet now that her husband has died, he desires nothing more than to be free of her. In the meantime upstanding zoologist Von Koren (Tobias Menzies) simmers in the background, gaging Laevsky's social mores and practically oozing contempt. Matters come to a head as Laevsky begs a loan from Samoylenko to escape his ripening paramour, who is also beginning to feel the gracious perimeters of the town closing in around her. From the buttons-and-bows millinery details to the oppressive dark wood furnishings, Kosashvili even-handedly builds a compelling Victorian-era *mise en scene* that seems to perfectly evoke the Chekhov's milieu — it's only when the title entanglement comes to pass that we finally see which side he's on. (1:35) *Smith Rafael.* (Chun)

Beetle Queen Conquers Tokyo (1:30)

Breathless (1:30)

City Island (1:40)

Cyrus (1:32)

Despicable Me (1:35)

Exit Through the Gift Shop (1:27) *Roxie.*

Get Him to the Greek (1:49)

The Girl Who Played With Fire (2:09) *Smith Rafael.*

The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (2:32) *Smith Rafael.*

Great Directors Sussing taste in movies isn't always as easy as perusing a shelf — not everyone necessarily cares to watch repeatedly even the films they esteem most. (Of course 1941's *Citizen Kane* is brilliant, but do I own that? Nix. But 2000's *Dude, Where's My Car?* Yup.) Thus Angela Ismailos' new documentary *Great Directors* is as interesting for what it reveals about the curator as for insights from "great" filmmakers themselves. Ismailos has tony taste: good if idiosyncratic, the kind you can respect yet argue with. She's a real cineaste. And a narcissist, falling into that realm of filmmakers who make movies about other people yet incessantly insert themselves into the frame. Still, there have been far worse offenders in the realm of *Gratuitous Me: The Documentary*, and Ismailos chooses her subjects — plus filmic excerpts — with beguiling intelligence. The interviewees are very articulate. Are all "great"? Well, it's hard to argue against Bernardo Bertolucci and David Lynch. Richard Linklater and Todd Haynes are inspired next-generation American choices. With John Sayles we enter the land of good intentions. Likewise Ken Loach and Stephen Frears. The jury's still out on Catherine Breillat, while one truly odd choice is Liliana Cavani (1974's S–M Nazi romance *The Night Porter*); offering contrast is Agnès Varda, whose puckish cinema is hobbit-like in its denial of sex. Several participants share tales of production travails, like Lynch claiming "It's beautiful to have a great failure" (i.e., 1984's *Dune*) since it freed him to make smaller, more personal projects like next-stop *Blue Velvet* (1986). Preening and adoring her idols in camera view, Ismailos flashes her good taste around. This would be more annoying if her taste wasn't, in fact, pretty choice. (1:26) *Opera Plaza, Shattuck.* (Harvey)

Grown Ups (1:42)

I Am Love (2:00)

Inception As my movie going companion pointed out, "Christopher Nolan must've shit a brick when he saw *Shutter Island*." In Nolan's *Inception*, as in *Shutter Island*, Leonardo DiCaprio is a troubled soul trapped in a world of mind-fuckery, with a tragic-vengeful wife (here, Marion Cotillard) and even some long-lost kids looming in his thoughts at all times. But *Inception*, about a team of corporate spies who infiltrate dreams to steal information and implant ideas, owes just as much to *The Matrix* (1999), *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* (2004), and probably a James Bond flick or two. Familiar though it may feel, at least *Inception* is based on a creative idea — how many movies, much less summer blockbusters, actually require viewer brain power? If its complex house-of-cards plot (dreams within dreams within dreams) can't quite withstand nit-picking, its action sequences are confidently staged and expertly directed, including a standout sequence involving a zero-gravity fist fight and elevator ride. Though it's hardly genius — and Leo-recycle aside — *Inception* is worth it, if you don't mind your puzzle missing a few pieces. (2:30) (Eddy)

Joan Rivers: A Piece of Work (1:24) *Smith Rafael.*

John Rabe (2:14)

The Kids Are All Right In many ways, *The Kids Are All Right* is a straightforward family dramedy: it's about parents trying to do what's best for their children and struggling to keep their relationship together. But it's also a film in which Jules (Julianne Moore) goes down on Nic (Annette Bening) while they're watching gay porn. Director Lisa Cholodenko (1998's *High Art*) co-wrote the script (with Stuart Blumberg), and the film's blend between mainstream and queer is part of what makes *Kids* such an important — not to mention enjoyable — film. Despite presenting issues that might be contentious to large portions of the country, the movie maintains an approachability that's often lacking in queer cinema. Of course, being in the gay mecca of the Bay Area skews things significantly — most locals wouldn't bat an eye at *Kids*, which has Nic and Jules' children inviting their biological father ("the sperm donor," played by Mark Ruffalo) into their lives. But for those outside the liberal bubble, the idea of a nontraditional family might be more eye-opening. It's not a message movie, but *Kids* may still change minds. And even if it doesn't, the film is a success that works chiefly because it isn't heavy-handed. It refuses to take itself too seriously. At its best, *Kids* is laugh-out-loud funny, handling the heaviest of issues with grace and humor. (1:47) (Peitzman)

Knight and Day (2:10)

The Last Airbender (1:34)

Let It Rain (1:39) *Smith Rafael.*

The Lottery (1:21) *Roxie.*

Micmacs (1:44)

Predators (1:51)

Ramona and Beezus (1:44)

Restrepo (1:33)

Salt Angelina Jolie channels the existential crisis of Jason Bourne and the DIY spirit of MacGyver in a film positing that America's most pressing concern is extant Russian cold warriors, who are plotting to reestablish their country's pre-glasnost glory via nuclear holocaust and a *Dark Angel*–style army of spy kids. Jolie plays CIA agent Evelyn Salt, a woman who can stymie the top-shelf surveillance system at work using her undergarments and fashion a shoulder-mounted rocket out of interrogation-room furniture and cleaning supplies. These talents surface after Salt is accused of being a Russian operative in league with the aforementioned disturbers of the new world order and takes flight, with her agency coworkers (Liev Schreiber and Chiwetel Ejiofor) in hot pursuit. What ensues is a vicious and confounding assault on the highest levels of the U.S. government, most known rules of logic, and the viewer's patience and powers of suspending disbelief. Salt's off-the-ranch maneuverings are moderately engaging, particularly in the first leg of the chase, but clunky expository flashbacks, movie-grade dialogue, and an absurd plotline slow the momentum considerably. (1:31) (Rapoport)

The Secret in Their Eyes (2:07)

The Sorcerer's Apprentice (1:43)

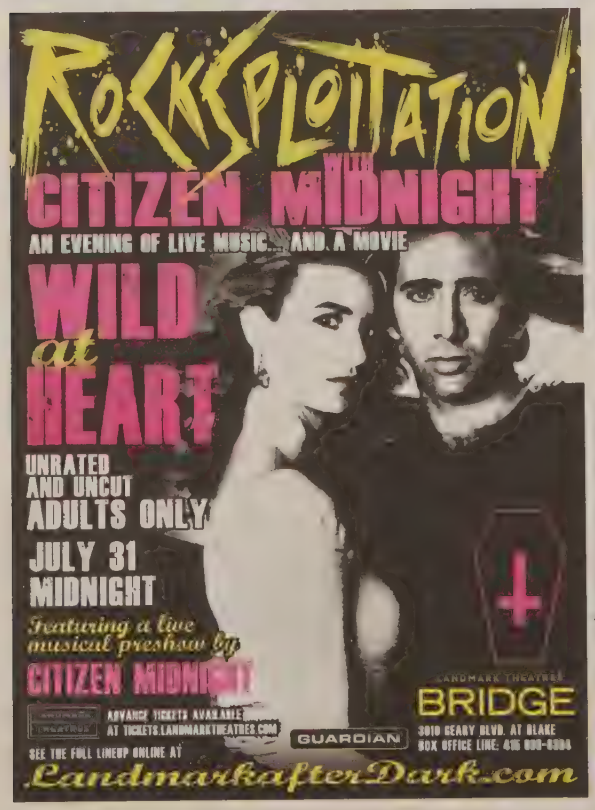
South of the Border (1:18)

Stonewall Uprising (1:22)

Toy Story 3 (1:49)

The Twilight Saga: Eclipse (2:04)

Winter's Bone (1:40) SFBG



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Rolling Stone, Peter Travers
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"Outrageously Funny!"
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PRODUCTION DESIGNER MICHAEL CORENBLITH DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY JIM DENAULT, A.S.C. EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS FRANCIS VEBER SACHA BARON COHEN AMY SAYRES JON POLL ROGER BIRNBAUM GARY BARBER PRODUCED BY WALTER F. PARKES LAURIE MacDONALD JAY ROACH
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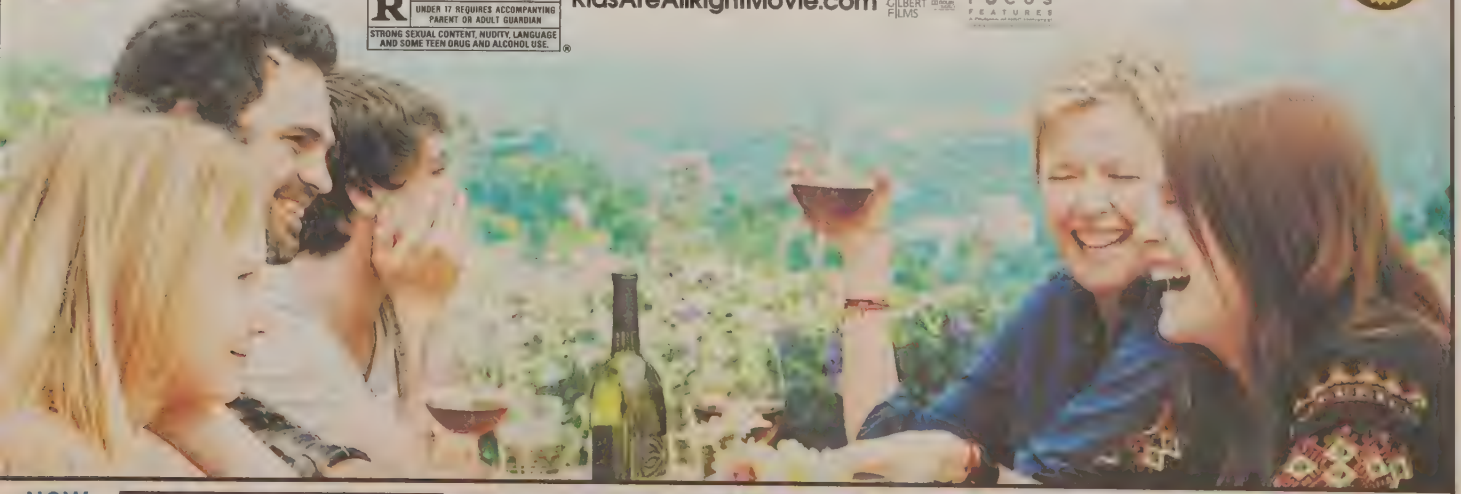

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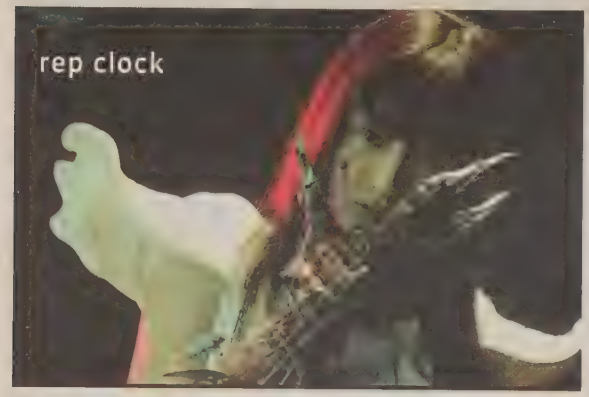

Mutant Girls Squad plays Viz Cinema as part of the Another Hole in the Head Film Festival.

Schedules are for Wed/28–Tues/3 except where noted. Director and year are given when available. Double and triple features are marked with a •. All times are p.m. unless otherwise specified.

ARTISTS' TELEVISION ACCESS 992 Valencia, SF; www.atasite.org. $6. "Cut and Run: Evolution of the Mind, Body, and Medium," short films, Sat, 8.

BAY MODEL 2100 Bridgeway, Sausalito; www.tiburonfilmfestival.com. Free. **Still Bill** (Baker and Vlack, 2009), Tues, 6.

BERKELEY FELLOWSHIP OF UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS 1924 Cedar, Berk; (510) 841-4824, www.bfuu.org. Free. **Saving the Bay: Marvel of Nature,** Thurs, 7:30.

BRIDGE 3010 Geary, SF; (415) 668-6384. $10. "Rocksploitation with Citizen Midnight:" **Wild At Heart** (Lynch, 1990), Sat, midnight.

CASTRO 429 Castro, SF; (415) 621-6120, www.castrotheatre.com. $7.50-10. San Francisco Jewish Film Festival, Wed-Thurs. See film listings. •**Rosemary's Baby** (Polanski, 1968), Fri, 7, and **See No Evil** (Fleischer, 1971), Fri, 9:35. "Midnites for Maniacs: Macho Man-iacs Quadruple Feature:" **Nighthawks** (Malmuth, 1981), Sat, 2; **Bloodsport** (Arnold, 1987), Sat, 4:15; **Big Trouble in Little China** (Carpenter, 1986), Sat, 6:30; **They Live** (Carpenter, 1988), Sat, 9:30; "Secret Midnite Film," Sat, 11:45. "Cinematic Titanic:" **War of the Insects** (Nihonmatsu, 1968), Tues, 8. Tickets ($30) at www.sfsketchfest.com.

CHRISTOPHER B. SMITH RAFAEL FILM CENTER 1118 Fourth St, San Rafael; (415) 454-1222, www.cafilm.org. $6.50-10.25. **Anton Chekhov's The Duel** (Koshashvili, 2010), call for dates and times. **The Girl Who Played With Fire** (Alfredson, 2009), call for dates and times. **The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo** (Oplev, 2009), call for dates and times. **Joan Rivers: A Piece of Work** (Stern and Sundberg, 2010), Wed-Thurs, call for times. **Let It Rain** (Jaoui, 2010), call for dates and times. **Farewell** (Carion, 2009), July 30-Aug 5, call for times. "San Francisco Opera Grand Opera Cinema Series:" "La Rondine by Giacomo Puccini," Thurs, 7 and Sat, 10am. **Emma's Time Machine: Adventures in Time and Space** Burtt, 2010), Sun, 6:30. Tickets ($20-40) benefit the Marin History Museum.

"FILM NIGHT IN THE PARK" This week: Creek Park, 451 Sir Francis Drake, San Anselmo; (415) 272-2756, www.filmnight.org. Donations accepted. **Fantastic Mr. Fox** (Anderson, 2009), Fri, 8; **Jaws** (Spielberg, 1975), Sat, 8.

PACIFIC FILM ARCHIVE 2575 Bancroft, Berk; (510) 642-5249, www.bampfa.berkeley.edu. $5.50-9.50. "Akira Kurosawa Centennial:" **One Wonderful Sunday** (1947), Wed, 7; **Sanjuro** (1962), Sat, 6:30; **Scandal** (1950), Sat, 8:30. "A Theater Near You:" **Lourdes** (Hausner, 2009), Thurs and Sun, 7. "Criminal Minds: True Crime Cinema:" **The Lodger** (Brahm, 1944), Fri, 7; **The Boston Strangler** (Fleischer, 1968), Fri, 8:45. "Modernist Master: The Cinema of Francesco Rosi:" **More Than a Miracle** (1967), Sun, 5.

PARAMOUNT THEATRE 2025 Broadway, Oakl; 1-800-745-3000, www.ticketmaster.com. $5. **King Kong** (Cooper and Schoedsack, 1933), Fri, 8.

RED VIC 1727 Haight, SF; (415) 668-3994. $6-9. **Harold and Maude** (Ashby, 1971), Wed, 2, 7:15, 9:15. **Stop Making Sense** (Demme, 1984), Thurs-Sat, 7:15, 9:15 (also Sat, 2, 4) **The Room** (Wiseau, 2003), Sat, midnight. **El Topo** (Jodorowsky, 1970), Sun-Mon, 7, 9:35 (also Sun, 2, 4:30). **Dead Man** (Jarmusch, 1996), Aug 3-4, 7, 9:25 (also Aug 4, 2).

ROXIE 3117 and 3125 16th St, SF; (415) 863-1087, www.roxie.com. $5-11.50. **Exit Through the Gift Shop** (Banksy, 2010), Wed, 7:15, 9:15. **The Lottery** (Sackler, 2010), Wed-Thurs, 7, 9 "Arab Film Festival Presents:" **Gaza-strophe: The Day After** (Abdellah), plus "Gaza's Winter," short films about Gaza and Operation Cast Lead, Thurs, 7. **The Cremaster Cycle** (Barney 1995-2002) plus "De Lama Lamina" (Barney 2004), July 30-Aug 5. Check web site for schedule.

VIZ CINEMA New People, 1746 Post, SF; www.sfindie.com $11.50. "Another Hole in the Head Film Festival": **Death Kappa** (Haraguchi, 2010), Thurs, 5; **Mutant Girls Squad** (Iguchi, 2010), Thurs, 7.

YERBA BUENA CENTER FOR THE ARTS 701 Mission, SF; (415) 978-2787, www.ybca.org. $6-8. "Something From Nothing: Films on Design and Architecture:" **The Greening of Southie** (Cheney, 2008), Sun, 2. SFBG

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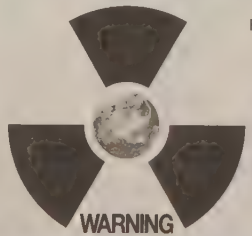
– JOHN ANDERSON, *THE WALL STREET JOURNAL*



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The following is contact information for Bay Area first-run theaters. Please go to sfbg.com for a complete list of showtimes

Balboa 38th Ave/Balboa. 221-8184. www.balboamovies.com.

Bridge Geary/Blake. 267-4893.

Century Plaza Noor off El Camino, South SF. (650) 742-9200.

Century 20 Junipero Serra/John Daly, Daly City (650) 994-7469.

Clay Fillmore/Clay. 267-4893.

Embarcadero Center Cinema 1 Embarcadero Center, promenade level. 267-4893.

Zac Efron stars in the romantic drama *Charlie St. Cloud*, out Fri/30. | PHOTO BY DIYAH PERA

Empire West Portal/Vicente. 661-2539.

Four Star Clement/23rd Ave. 666-3488.

Kabuki Cinema Post/Fillmore. 929-4650.

Lumiere California/Polk. 267-4893.

Marina Theatre 2149 Chestnut. www.lntsf.com/marina_theatre

Metreon Fourth St/Mission. 1-800-FANDANGO

Metro Union/Webster. 931-1685.

1000 Van Ness 1000 Van Ness. 1-800-231-3307

Opera Plaza Van Ness/Golden Gate. 267-4893.

Presidio 2340 Chestnut. 776-2388.

SF Centre Mission between Fourth and Fifth sts 538-8422.

Stonestown 19th Ave/Winston. 221-8182.

Vogue Sacramento/Presidio. 221-8183.

OAKLAND

Grand Lake 3200 Grand, Oakl. (510) 452-3556.

Jack London Stadium 100 Washington, Jack London Square, Oakl. (510) 433-1320.

Piedmont Piedmont/41st St, Oakl. (510) 464-5980.

BERKELEY AREA

Albany 1115 Solano, Albany. (510) 464-5980.

AMC Bay Street 16 5614 Shellmound, Emeryville. (510) 457-4262.

California Kittredge/Shattuck, Berk. (510) 464-5980.

Cerrito 10070 San Pablo, El Cerrito. (510) 972-9102

Emery Bay 6330 Christie, Emeryville. (510) 420-0107.

Rialto Cinemas Elmwood 2966 College Ave. at Ashby, Berk. (510) 433-9730.

Shattuck Cinemas 2230 Shattuck, Berk. (510) 464-5980.

UA Berkeley 2274 Shattuck, Berk. (510) 843-1487. SFBG

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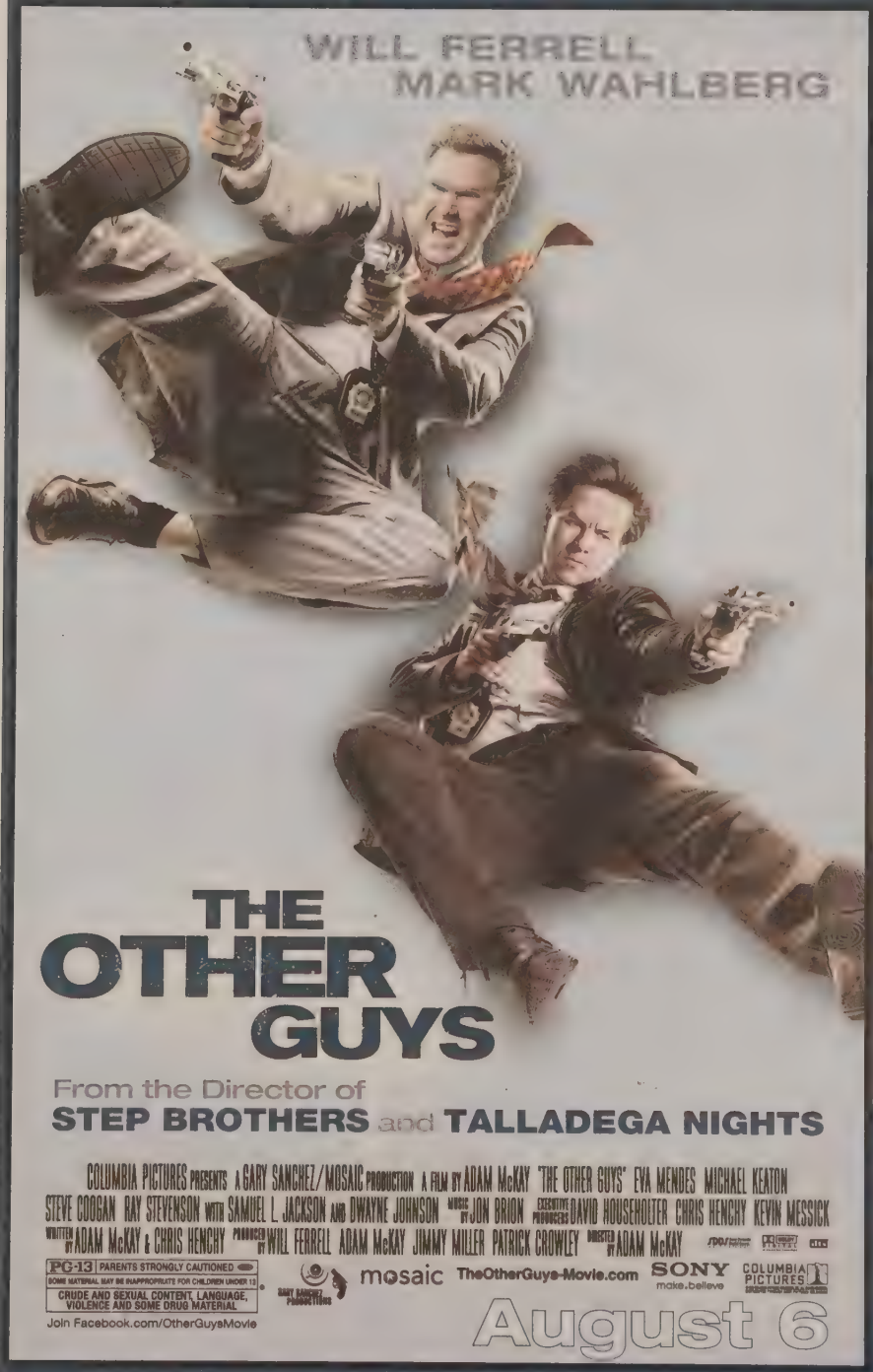

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Deadline for entries is Tuesday, August 3, 2010. No purchase necessary to enter contest.

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Notification is given that First National Bank of Northern California, 975 El Camino Real, South San Francisco, CA, 94080, has filed an application with the Comptroller of the Currency on July 1, 2010, as specified in 12 CFR 5 for permission to establish a branch at 2197 Chestnut Street, San Francisco, CA, 94123. Any person wishing to comment on this application may file comments in writing with the Director for District Licensing, 1225 17th St., #300, Denver, CO, 80202, within 30 days of the date of this publication.

› legal notices

ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT The registrant listed below have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name **San Francisco School of Economics**, 540 Arballo Dr San Francisco, CA 94132. The fictitious business name was filed in the County of San Francisco under File# 0316664 on: 1/5/2009. NAME AND ADDRESS OF REGISTRANTS (as shown on previous statement): Henry George School of Social Science of San Francisco (CA Corporation) 540 Arballo Dr San Francisco, CA 94132 . This business was conducted by a corporation. Signed Ingo Bischoff. Dated: July 2, 2010, Nory Hanson, Deputy County Clerk. **#113154. July 14, 21, 28 and August 4, 2010**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. A-0328266-00 The following person is doing business as **Lara Chan Design**, PO Box 460664 San Francisco, CA 94146-0667. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced business under the above-listed fictitious business name on the date 5/2/10. Signed Lara Chan. This statement was filed by Jennifer Wong on June 7, 2010. **#113147. July 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2010**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. A-0328562-00 The following person is doing business as **Ahram Namu Kimchi**, 1176 Florida St San Francisco, CA 94110. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced business under the above-listed fictitious business name on the date 6/21/10. Signed Ahram Kim. This statement was filed by Maribel Jaldon on June 21, 2010. **#113156. July 14, 21, 28 and August 4, 2010**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. A-0328693-00 The following person is doing business as **JTM**, 575 Ramsell St San Francisco, CA 94132. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Registrant commenced business under the above-listed fictitious business name on the date N/A. Signed Jesse Davison. This statement was filed by Maribel Jaldon on June 25, 2010. **#113146. July 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2010**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. A-0328855-00 The following person is doing business as **1. William Decker & Company; 2. WD Waterproofing & Restoration**, 1113 Connecticut St #6 San Francisco, CA 94107. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced business under the above-listed fictitious business name on the date 1/1/10. Signed Rachel M. Decker. This statement was filed by Maribel Jaldon on July 2, 2010. **#113155. July 14, 21, 28 and August 4, 2010**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. A-0328878-00 The following person is doing business as **The Summit SF**, 1840 Grove St San Francisco, CA 94117 . This business is conducted by limited liability company. Registrant commenced business under the above-listed fictitious business name on the date 7/6/10. Signed Desi Danganan. This statement was filed by Magdalena Zevallos on July 6, 2010. **#113153. July 14, 21, 28 and August 4, 2010**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. A-0328908-00 The following person is doing business as **Tatum Brooke Photography**, 1845 Larkin St Apt. 3 San Francisco, CA 94109. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced business under the above-listed fictitious business name on the date 6/1/10. Signed Kim Martin. This statement was filed by Alan Wong on July 7, 2010. **#113150. July 14, 21, 28 and August 4, 2010**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. A-0328917-00 The following person is doing business as **Active Kids After Care**, 901 Minnesota St San Francisco, CA 94107. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced business under the above-listed fictitious business name on the date 6/21/10. Signed Drea Whiting. This statement was filed by Magdalena Zevallos on July 7, 2010. **#113151. July 14, 21, 28 and August 4, 2010**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. A-0328951-00 The following person is doing business as **HBIP**, 385 Staples Ave San Francisco, CA 94112. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Registrant commenced business under the above-listed fictitious business name on the date 7/1/10. Signed David T. Yamamoto. This statement was filed by Maredyne L. Argente on July 9, 2010. **#113149. July 14, 21, 28 and August 4, 2010**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. A-0329015-00 The following person is doing business as **Talent Farm**, 1029 Treat Ave San Francisco, CA 94110. This business is conducted by a corporation. Registrant commenced business under the above-listed fictitious business name on the date 6/21/10. Signed David Delp. This statement was filed by Jennifer Wong on July 13, 2010. **#113161. July 21, 28, August 4 and 11, 2010**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. A-0329072-00 The following person is doing business as **Psychic Reading by Helen**, 4450 Geary Blvd Apt 1 San Francisco, CA 94118. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced business under the above-listed fictitious business name on the date 7/14/10. Signed Patsy Miller. This statement was filed by Magdalena Zevallos on July 14, 2010. **#113165. July 28, August 4, 11 and 18, 2010**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. A-0329095-00 The following person is doing business as **Little Pixel Design**, 912 Cole St #236 San Francisco, CA 94117. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced business under the above-listed fictitious business name on the date 7/15/10. Signed Raleigh Habersberger. This statement was filed by Mariedyne L. Argente on July 15, 2010. **#113159. July 21, 28, August 4 and 11, 2010**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. A-0329138-00 The following person is doing business as **Bay View Florist**, 6256 3rd St San Francisco, CA 94124. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced business under the above-listed fictitious business name on the date 7/15/10. Signed Jae B Lee. This statement was filed by Jennifer Wong on July 16, 2010. **#113158. July 21, 28, August 4 and 11, 2010**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. A-0329151-00 The following person is doing business as **Hypnowheel, Dr Mezmo's House of Toys**, 33 McCoppin St San Francisco, CA 94103. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced business under the above-listed fictitious business name on the date 7/19/10. Signed Shawn Everett Molampy. This statement was filed by Jennifer Wong on July 19, 2010. **#113160. July 21, 28, August 4 and 11, 2010**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. A-0329244-00 The following person is doing business as **Haight & Fillmore Whole Foods**, 501 Haight St San Francisco, CA 94117. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Registrant commenced business under the above-listed fictitious business name on the date 7/19/09. Signed Mahana Askandafi. This statement was filed by Jennifer Wong on July 21, 2010. **#113166. July 28, August 4, 11 and 18, 2010**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. A-0329283-00 The following person is doing business as **GO2 STRATEGY LLC, STEM2SPORTS, STEM2 HEALTHCARE & SCIENCE, BLACKNEWS-TALK.COM, STEM2GOLD TRACK & FIELD TEAM, STEM2, STEM2JOBS, STEM2COLLEGE, STEM2GOLD**, 19 Redondo St San Francisco, CA 94124. This business is conducted by limited liability company. Registrant commenced business under the above-listed fictitious business name on the date 7/22/10. Signed Derek L. Toliver. This statement was filed by Melissa Ortiz on July 22, 2010. **#113167. July 28, August 4, 11 and 18, 2010**

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES Date of Filing Application: **July 13, 2010**. To Whom It May Concern: The name of the applicant is: **MG-252 CAL LLC**. The applicant listed above is applying to The Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at: 252 California St, San Francisco, CA 94111. Type of License Applied for: **47- ON-SALE GENERAL EATING PLACE. Publication dates: July 21, 28 and August 4 2010 L#113163**

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES Date of Filing Application: **June 23, 2010**. To Whom It May Concern: The name of the applicant is: **Mario Albert Duarte**. The applicant listed above is applying to The Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at: 3215 Mission St, San Francisco, CA 94110-5006. Type of License Applied for: **41 - ON-SALE BEER AND WINE - EATING PLACE. Publication dates: July 21, 28 and August 4 2010 L#113164**

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER: CNC-10-546995. SUPERIOR COURT, 400 McAllister St. San Francisco, CA 94102. PETITION of Michael Lee Hudin for change of name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner **Michael Lee Hudin** filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name: Michael Lee Hudin Proposed Name: **Miquel Hudin**. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: September 14, 2010. Time: 9:00 AM room - 218. Signed by James J McBride, Presiding Judge on July 13, 2010. Endorsed Filed San Francisco County Superior Court on July 13, 2010 by Param Natt, Deputy Clerk. **Publication dates: July 21, 28, August 4 and 11, 2010. L#113162**

SUMMONS ON CROSS-COMPLAINT CASE NUMBER: CGC-09-486812 NOTICE TO CROSS-DEFENDANT**Cocoa Development Retail, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company; Cocoa Development Associates, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company; JMA Ventures, LLC, a California limited liability company; Norcal Construction Management Services LLC, a California limited liability company; Jonathan Townley; Louis Henry Felthouse, an individual; Louis H. Felthouse Architect Inc., a California corporation, and ROES 1 through 50** YOU ARE BEING SUED BY CROSS-COMPLAINANT **Marche Rue LLC, a California limited liability company; Marche on the Square LLC, a California limited liability company** You have 30 calendar days after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the Plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court for a fee waiver form. If you do not file on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money and property may be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), The California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. The name and address of this court is: San Francisco Superior Court, 400 McAllister Street, San Francisco, CA 94102. The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiffs attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: Val D Hornstein (SBN 133726); Michael Waughtel (SBN 095556) Hornstein Law Offices. Prof. Corp. 475 Sansome Street, 18th Floor San Francisco, CA 94111 Date: December 17, 2009. Gordon Park-Li ,Clerk, by Carolyn Balistreri, Deputy (For proof of service of this summons, use Proof of Service of Summons, (POS-010)). **July 21, 28, August 4 and 11, 2010. L#113157**

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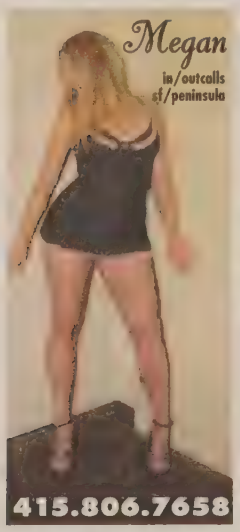

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Chuck the bucket

By Andrea Nemerson
andrea@mail.altsexcolumn.com

Dear Andrea:
I keep hearing people talking about "bucket lists." Do you think most people have a "sex bucket list"? And if so, should we? Would you say it's good to try new things? It seems like it would be fun at least.
Love,
Much Ado About To-Do Lists

Dear Ado:
If you say so. Those lists all sound the same to me: "sky-dive, live abroad, climb Kilimanjaro ... " Most strike me as not so much things the writer wants to do as things the writer thinks people *ought* to want to do.

As for sex lists, I can hardly allow myself to be quoted saying, "No, it is not good to try new things" so I'm going to have to agree, as far as it goes.

The webs abound with amateur and professionally produced sex-bucket lists and they are uniformly depressing. Of course I do think any exercise that encourages one to examine long-held prejudices and long-lived preferences, and that might end up incubating a new sense of adventure and encouraging an expansion of horizons is all to the good. There is something about the bucket list that bugs, though. Go ahead and try to write one, or pull some up from someplace, and you'll see that an awful lot of them go something like this:

"Beach, park, airplane bathroom, supply closet, drive-thru at In-n-Out Burger ..." lists of locations, in other words, with little thought given to what you and your unspecified partner/s is/are supposed to be doing once you get there. I just don't seriously believe that anyone really cares whether they die before they get a chance to do "it" on mule-back descending the Grand Canyon.

Not all lists are utterly devoid of human occupants, of course, but they aren't much better. "Do it with another woman/man; do it with my boss; do it with somebody famous, do it with..." Ugh. People are no more interesting than places when sorted into preset slots that way. And you know what's missing from a list like this? Feeling of any sort.

There are, of course, ways the list can function as a useful exercise. Sex educators often note that the advent of incurable and/or fatal STDs and the safety precautions they have made necessary has one teensy little upside: the need to negotiate safer sex forces a certain level self-awareness and of honesty both with ourselves and our partners. You have to decide what you really want and what (if anything) you are willing to risk to get it.

You could use your list as an opportunity for serious self-examination and emerge with a stronger sense of yourself as a sexual person. Do you need one purely faithful partner forever, or would you be much happier in a big polyamorous puppy-pile? Is that actually sexual attraction you feel toward that same-sex somebody, or do you just like her shoes?

Or, you know, not. Nobody's going to judge you for making a silly list of places or positions. Not unless you publish it, anyway.
Love,
Andrea

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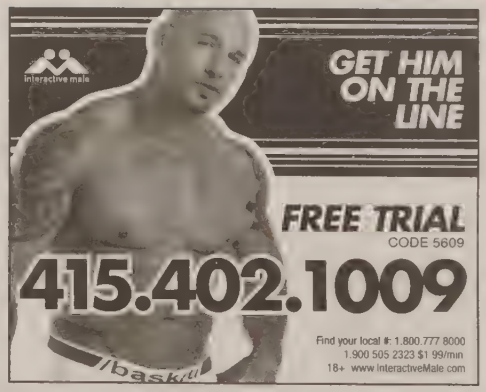

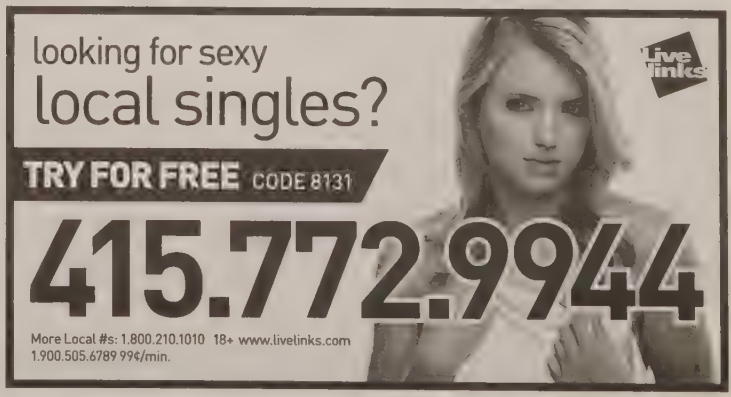

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› women seeking men

ISO GENUINE PERSON
Fun-loving, smart, down-to-earth woman looking to meet a friend in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. Let's get to know each other and enjoy life. Looking for someone in 45-60 age range, non-smoker; a genuine person, with good heart, who is honest. ☎331680

NATIVE AMERICAN ISO SAME
Native American woman, 55+, with quirky sense of humor, seeks Native American man, 36+, honest, caring, devoted, willing to laugh sometimes, for long-term relationship. ☎331681

BLUE-EYED BLONDE
Very attractive SF, takes excellent care of herself, blessed with excellent health, enjoys fine dining, concerts, theater, sunsets, candlelight dinners, long walks, the ocean, travel.Seeking gentleman, early-mid 60s, successful, classy, very selective gentleman. ☎318477

SEEKS SOUTHWEST ASIAN MALE
SWF ,62, 5'5", blonde/blue, N/S, energetic, enjoys anthropology, music, art, museums, nature walks, the outdoors, hiking, discussions about politics, economics and the enigma of life. Seeking southwest Asian man for friendship, maybe more. ☎434857

SEEKING CARING GENTLEMAN
Attractive W/WF, long blonde hair, hazel-green eyes, 57", recently retired. Lives in Monterey Bay area. Wishes to meet an educated, honest gentleman for movies, music, travel. Friendship first. ☎965249

BIRTHDAY GIRL
Married WF, 32, wants somebody to shower her with love and gifts for her birthday. Seeking WM, 30-65, for horseback riding, sailing, beaches and more. ☎323128

STERN BLACK NUNS
Sisters of the order of St. Dominadora. Seeks submissive repair man as boy toys, cross-dressers can work in drag. Surrender to a higher Female Power. ☎909149

SWEET AND CARING
Hispanic lady, nice-looking, petite, 100lbs, brown hair, brown eyes, tan complexion, independent, financially stable, educated, seeks tall, white, Catholic male, 70+, who's serious-minded for a possible LTR. ☎861416

DOMINANT ATTITUDE
Full-figured black lady with huge butt, in wheelchair, seeks hungry, submissive W/AM, 25-70, for female worship, mutually beneficial arrangement, fantasy fulfillment, adult toy play. ☎851838

HAPPY SUMMERTIME!
SWF, 55+, petite, brown hair, big, brown eyes, would like to meet a nice, handsome man. I'm into music, metaphysics, big smiles and spiritual values. Non-smokers, please. ☎[illegible]

SEEKS THE RIGHT ONE!
SWF, 50s, very caring, compassionate, classy, feminine, seeks nice gentleman, 49-59, to share dancing, traveling, long walks, the beach and more! possible LTR. ☎331622

YOU WON'T BE SORRY!
SF, I'm in my 40s, I'm described as friendly, captivating, motivated, feminine, works hard, seeks like-minded, nice gentleman, 40s-50s for possible LTR. Interests include: dancing, traveling, exercise and more. ☎331628

READY TO TAKE A CHANCE!
Ambitious woman, 50s, honest, goal-oriented, bright, hard-working, motivated, seeks similar gentleman, 50s, for dating leading to possible LTR. Please no games! ☎[illegible]

TENNIS ANYONE?
Feminine woman, 50s, very friendly, honest, caring seeks single male, 50s, who's interested in tennis, camping, dancing the night away, beautiful beaches, experiencing new adventures and more! I'm seeking a sincere long-term relationship. ☎331632

HOW ABOUT DINNER?
Artistic, caring, classy, honest SF likes travel, shopping, the beach, reading, music and much more. Seeking SM, 40-60, for possible LTR. ☎322207

WARM, LOVING, ADVENTUROUS
Curious, loves people, in depth conversations, nature, travel. Integrity, open mindedness and laughter a must. No smoker, no drugs, non or moderate drinker. I am a Cougar Woman - Are you ready to have fun and love again? ☎322341

BF SEEKS EUROPEAN MAN
My personality: quitted witted, independent and creative. Looking for a man with an interest in travel, opera, symphony, ballet, museums, festivals and dancing. ☎[illegible]

CASUAL DATING
Caring, friendly SF who enjoys dancing, travel, long drives exercise and more, would like to meet a gentleman, 40-49, for friendship and companionship. ☎322201

I'M WAITING FOR YOU!
SWF, 59, 57", 125lbs, N/S, likes watching movies, dance, walks on the beach. Seeking SM, race open, 55-70, a good listener, financially solvent, good sense of humor, for friendship and possibly LTR. ☎329702

› men seeking women

READY AND WAITING
Horny WM stud, 34, looking for Latin, Asian or white women, 18-45, who are into anal and oral pleasure. ☎317867

A GREAT GUY
Straightforward, intelligent, down-to-earth SBM, 46, medium build, very outgoing, hard-working, enjoys quiet times and free time. Seeking SF, 30-50, for possible relationship. ☎329843

CASUAL RELATIONSHIP
SBM, 34, N/S, looking for intimate encounters with a sexual, cool female, 21-44. Just looking for some fun? Look no further. ☎[illegible]

LONELY HM...
54, 155lbs, healthy, non-smoker, disease-free, looking for that special someone. 20-70, single or married, who is tired of being alone, for mutually beneficial relationship, fantasy fulfillment, and more. ☎318602

TALL, DARK AND HANDSOME
Intelligent Stanford guy, 59, seeks open-minded, attractive, affectionate lady, 35-45. ☎319222

ARE YOU OUT THERE?
I'm 21, 5'8", 146lbs, with curly/wavy hair, tanned-skinned, thin moustache, and a nice personality. I enjoys going to the movies, walking on the beach, the outdoors, music, and more. Looking for a black African Christian women, but any race is welcome. Visalia, CA. ☎320784

SEEKING FRIEND
Bilingual SHM, 51, lovable, 5'9", 195lbs, clean, no drugs, wanting serious, affectionate relationship with warm-hearted, happy woman, 20-56. Call me! ☎202389

A GENTLE STYLE...
Because I love. SWM, 60, 5'11", handsome, good values, looks ten years younger, seeking woman for friendship, maybe more. Enjoy city walks and going to Marin Co. ☎319190

VERY CLASSY GUY
Well-educated, secure, stable PM, recently retired, down-to-earth, likes reading, flying, tennis, playing music, more. Would like to meet a very classy lady, 37-56, who has the same qualities, for lasting relationship. ☎331440

YOU FOUND ME!
Caring SWM, 40s, 5'8", 140lbs, N/S, with mild case cerebral palsy, seeks single female in her 30s, to share outdoor activities, dining out, long walks, running. I have run two half-marathons. Friendship first leading to possible LTR. ☎331626

CALL ME
Good-looking SHM looking for a mature woman, 40-50, who knows what she wants and likes to have fun. ☎318127

PROBABLY THE BEST...
guy you'll meet. I'm not fit, but I'm not out of shape either. I'm very cute, outgoing and makes the best of everything. I'm seeking a woman who wants a real relationship, become my best friend, do little things as I will do and who takes care of herself. ☎[illegible]

LET'S MEET
19-year-old college student, athletic. Looking for someone nice, sexy and hot, 18-21. Some who is fun and fully woman. ☎319146

SEEKING CLASSY FEMALE
Compassionate, hardworking, caring male with good values, 40s, enjoys music, hiking, the beach, coffee shops, walks, working out, camping, travel and dancing. Would like to meet a single lady, 40-49, for LTR. Contact me soon. ☎322202

TAKE A CHANCE
Inhibited, insecure, optimistic, 45, tall, vegetarian, great body, blondish, blue, bright, smokes, seeks partner, truthful, hot, trustworthy, vegetarian, bright, loving, kind, complete communicatrix, available, monogamous, Gemini? ...coffee?" ☎324858

ROMANTIC AND PASSIONATE
SBM, 51, young in heart and body, seeks SF, 40-55, N/S, D/D-free, who enjoys travel, Las Vegas, romantic interludes and more. You must know what you want and be sincere. ☎322846

TRUSTY, BUSTY, LUSTY...
fun-loving female partner desired by life-loving, laugh-loving male. I'm handsome, in shape, black hair, blue eyes, legs of steel, extremely large and extra skilled where in counts. I'm successful, educated, mature, generous, adventurous, single. Race/age open. All replies answered. ☎319011

ISO SEXY FEMALE
Seeking a cute, thick, straight-up, top-notch freak. Ladies, if this is you, get at this SBM, 41. ☎323148

LET'S GET TOGETHER
SHM, 28, N/S, looking for a nice woman, 30-45, for friendship first, maybe more. ☎[illegible]

LET'S SEE WHERE IT GOES
SWM, 6', very muscular, outgoing, spontaneous, healthy, looking for a very outgoing woman, 35-40. ☎324017

ONE NICE GENTLEMAN
Good man, 44, 5'10", looking for hot, sexy ladies to share special occasions with and exchange mutual satisfaction. ☎325542

GOOD MAN WITH GOOD JOB
SWM, 32, interested in meeting a pretty lady, 27-55, for occasional companionship, maybe more. ☎325754

BUSTY/CURVY WANTED
Attractive WM, 38, fit, clean, discreet, seeks busty, curvy BF for fun and intimate times. ☎[illegible]

LET'S MEET
77-year-old retired Caucasian Christian high school teacher in Daly City wishes to meet and date a retired Caucasian lady for the object of marriage. I don't smoke, I'm a social dancer, play music in bands, own my own home and car and love my cat. ☎328838

LET'S HAVE FUN TODAY!
Friendly SWM, honest, healthy, motivated, kind, seeks similar woman, 40-59, to share outdoor activities, hiking, biking, photography, friendship first, maybe LTR. ☎331623

SEEKING POSSIBLE LTR
SWM, 20s, very hard-working, easygoing, clean-cut, good values, flexible, ISO easy-going female in her 20s, to go dating, long drives, having fun outdoors, camping and more. ☎331624

SEARCH NO FURTHER!
Sincere SWM, 40s, seeks SF (Caucasian only), 22-39, to share traveling, long walks, biking, outdoor fun, togetherness, beaches, for friendship maybe more. ☎331627

BOYISHLY CHARMING
Caring gentleman, in my 60s, seeks a nice, healthy woman, 50s-60s, to share outdoor activities, walks, dining out, skiing, traveling together, outdoor adventures, museums. Friendship first leading to possible LTR. ☎331629

AMBITIOUS MAN
SM, 50s, friendly, goal-oriented, caring, honest, optimistic, with good values, loves music, surfing, beaches, travel, just watching tv. Seeking SF, late 30s-late 40s, who enjoys the same, for LTR. ☎328999

I AM LET'S HAVE SOME FUN!
SM, 25 just moved to the Bay Area from Redondo Beach, CA. Looking for some fun, exciting, and interesting people to hang around with. I'm an Engineering student that works really hard and on my time off I like to play really hard! Come join me for some fun. ☎326859

› men seeking men

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bi or straight men, over 35. No reciprocation required. Easygoing, mellow, handsome, mature men on Twin Peaks, with my own place. I have porn if you like. No drugs or long hair please. ☎305335

BI MALE SEEKS SAME
Bi married male, 45, health conscious, well built, seeks same, 30-50 for intimacy, passion and fun. ☎322889

› women seeking women

LIKE WHAT YOU READ?
BF, 5'3", soft butch, likes going out and having fun. Looking for a lady, 25-44, who is sweet and easygoing, for friendship first. ☎319101

FIRST TIME
Married WF, 32, looking for WF, 25-40, to shower me with gifts and make me her sex slave. ☎324221

WELL-ROUNDED
BF likes movies, dancing, music, singing and more. Would like to meet a woman, 23-45, who enjoys the same things. ☎318193

›three's company

LOAN ME YOUR WIFE
Handsome, easygoing, discreet, polite gentleman, 59, enjoys couples. I am a WM, 6', 190lbs, athletic build, well-hung and Bi. I also like dominant women. ☎232423

› tv/ts

SEEKING TS
WM, blond/blue, looking for a TS friend for movies, dinners and occasional fun. Let's get together! ☎316968

ISO TV FOR INTIMATE ENCOUNTERS
Black/Italian male, 25, tall, sexual, outgoing, dominant, looking for intimate encounters with TVs. Call, let's talk! ☎326434

› kinksters

ROMANTIC SPANISH WRESTLER
Taurus, 5'11", 164lbs, fully employed, wants to wrestle athletic babes. Very youthful at 50ish. Generous. Let's meet for coffee, dinner? Discreet and lots of fun. Sports enthusiast, moderate smoker, passionate! ☎311173

SUBMISSIVE SUPERHERO
SWM, 50, needs a daring superheroine wannabe to try and rescue me, and an evil villainess to capture us both! ☎301717

DADDY SEEKS DAUGHTER
...for playful punishment when bad and thrilling, fulfilling sex when good. I'm a WM, hung, in great shape, expert spanker. Weight, race, legal age, marital status open. ☎318745

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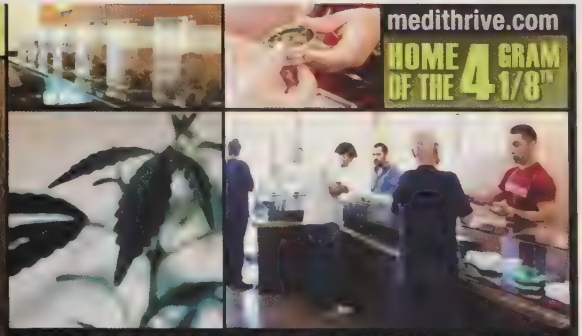

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SUGGESTIONS

HERE'S THIS MONTH'S TRADE PAPER RELEASES, HOT OFF THE PRESSES, THAT MAY WORK FOR YOUR BOOK GROUP'S 2010 SELECTIONS. REMEMBER TO REGISTER YOUR BOOK GROUP WITH YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD BOOKS INC. STORE AND RECEIVE 15% OFF EACH MONTH'S SELECTION FOR EVERYONE IN YOUR BOOK GROUP.

Boy Who Harnessed the Wind

By William Kamkwamba

WILLIAM KAMKWAMBA is a student at African Leadership Academy and a 2007 TED Global Fellow who has delivered an address at the World Economic Forum on Africa. He now offers an immensely engaging tale that describes how an enterprising teenager in Malawi builds a windmill from scraps he finds around his village and brings electricity and a future to his family. **ON SALE NOW**

Language of Trees

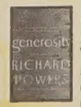
By Ilie Ruby

After a broken marriage, Grant, a descendant of the Seneca Indians Grant, has moved into his childhood home, a lake house that has withstood happiness and tragedy. He knows he must deal with the spirits of the past – that of the little boy who disappeared years ago; the boy's sister, who never overcame the loss; and the love Grant still has for Echo. But before the healing must come forgiveness... **ON SALE NOW**

Dancing to the Precipice

By Caroline Moorehead

The biographer of Bertrand Russell, Freya Star, Iris Origo and Martha Gellhorn, Caroline Moorehead now offers a compelling biography of Lucie de la Tour du Pin, an utterly remarkable yet little-known woman who was observer, commentator, and participant in the major social upheavals of late 18th- and early 19th-Century Europe. **ON SALE NOW**



Generosity

By Richard Powers

What will happen to life when science identifies the genetic basis of happiness? Who will own the patent? Do we dare revise our own temperaments? Funny, fast, and magical, ***Generosity*** celebrates both science and the freed imagination. In his most exuberant book yet, **RICHARD POWERS** asks us to consider the big questions facing humankind as we begin to rewrite our own existence. **ON SALE AUGUST 3RD**

Breaking of Eggs

By Jim Powell

Feliks is a naturalized Frenchman, a displaced Pole and curmudgeon who has made his living writing a yearly travel guide to the countries behind the Iron Curtain. When a rapacious American publisher offers to buy his life's work, Feliks must travel to the country he has long despised. So begins the tale of a man who awakens from self-imposed isolation into a changed world he must get to know all over again. **ON SALE NOW**

Inconvenient Elephant

By Judy Singer

After a year in Africa, Neelie Sterling is preparing to return to the States and a life filled with exes: ex-boyfriend, ex-husband, ex-house, ex-horse. But she is leaving behind an elephant targeted for execution. With the help of an eccentric safari operator, Neelie buys some time for the imperiled pachyderm, knowing that when she lands in New York they'll need to relearn how to survive in an urban jungle of table manners and real beds. **ON SALE NOW**

Reapers are the Angels

By Alden Bell

For 25 years, civilization has survived in meager enclaves, guarded against a plague of the dead. Temple can't remember a time before the zombies, but she does remember an old man who took her in until the tragedy that set her on a personal journey toward redemption. Moving back and forth between the insulated remnants of society and the brutal frontier beyond, Temple must decide where ultimately to find the salvation she seeks. **ON SALE AUGUST 3RD**

You Lost Me There

Rosecrans Baldwin

By turns funny, charming, and tragic, Baldwin's debut novel takes readers inside the heart and mind of Dr. Victor Aaron, a leading Alzheimer's researcher at the Soborg Institute on Mount Desert Island in Maine, who discovers his wife has pursued couples counseling. A dazzling debut that is at once a lightly-erudite novel of ideas and a darkly-charming love story set on an island off the coast of Maine. **ON SALE AUGUST 12TH**

Good Soldiers

By David Finkel

In January 2007, President George W. Bush announced a new strategy for Iraq, known as the surge. Among those called to duty were the young, optimistic army infantry soldiers of the 2-16, the battalion nicknamed the Rangers. Fifteen months later, the soldiers returned home, forever changed. The chronicle of their tour is gripping, devastating, and deeply-illuminating for anyone with an interest in human conflict. **ON SALE AUGUST 3RD**

Slippery Year

By Melanie Gideon

The Slippery Year chronicles **GIDEON'S** struggle to rediscover meaning and pleasure in life while navigating the comical ups and downs of cohabiting with a husband, child, and dog: mattress wars with her snoring mate, the psychological minefield of the school carpool line, and sending her son to sleep-away camp for the first time. **GIDEON** manages to be laugh-out-loud funny while also reflecting beautifully and movingly on her quest to appreciate what she has. **ON SALE AUGUST 10TH**

Water Ghosts

By Shawna Yang Ryan

Locke, California, 1928. Three bedraggled Chinese women appear out of the mist in a small Chinese farming town on the Sacramento River. Two are unknown to its residents, while the third is the long-lost wife of Richard Fong, the manager of the local gambling parlor. As the lives of the townspeople become inextricably intertwined with the newly arrived women, their frightening power is finally revealed. ***Water Ghosts*** will appeal to readers of Lisa See, Anchin Min, and Gail Tsukiyama. **ON SALE NOW**

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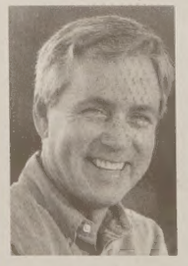
Vol. 11, Iss. 12
August 2010

BOOKS INC. CELEBRATES CARL HIAASEN

CARL HIAASEN seems to do it all. He was written three best-selling children's books, ***Scat***; ***Hoot*** (Newberry Medal Honor and made into a movie); and ***Flush***. He has collaborated on novels, three with fellow journalist Bill Montalbano (***Powder Bur***; ***Trap Line*** and ***A Death in Chin***) and with 12 other Florida based authors, including **DAVE BARRY** and **ELMORE LEONARD**, on ***Naked Came the Manatee***). He has written ten bestselling novels, ***Tourist Season***, ***Double Whammy***, ***Skin Tight***, ***Native Tongue***, ***Strip Tease*** (made into a move in 1996), ***Stormy Weather***, ***Skinny Dip***, ***Sick Puppy***, ***Lucky You*** and his latest ***Star Island***, hits the street on July 27.

He also writes non fiction, ***Team Rodent: How Disney Devours the World***, ***Paradise Screwed***, and ***The Downhill Lie: A Hacker's Return to a Ruinous Sport***. And, if that doesn't look like its been a full time job, he's done it all with a day job as an investigative journalist for more than 30 years and still writes a column for ***The Miami Herald***, where in any given week he might take on British Petroleum, politics in his home state of Florida or even the Supreme Court, all with the same brand of wit and wry humor.



The novels can be called mysteries or thrillers. Just the titles themselves will tell you they are filled with outrageous characters. His themes can be environmental and sometimes serious, all the more increasing the satire and humor of the quirky story lines. We also hear he is a pretty funny guy. He's one of the most sought after author events around and he's coming to **Books Inc, in the Marina, Saturday, August 14 at 7:00 pm**.

AUGUST

SIRIUS SCRATCHES FLEAS ON THE HORIZON BUT EVENTS ARE NOT SLOWING DOWN!

HOWARD BRYANT
GARY SHTEYNGART
DANIEL MANN
SUSAN GAL
ADRIENNE MCDONNELL
MARK ELKIN
DOUG DORST
BRANDI DOUGHERTY
CARL HIAASEN
LUIS URREA
ADAM ELENBAAS
DAVID JEDEIKIN
SUZANNE CARREIRO
JANE PORTER
ROB ELIAS
and more...
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JULY 24 THROUGH AUGUST 9

The Renowned three-week summer Festival features the high quality Jewish films from around the world. As the first of more than 100 Jewish film festivals worldwide—and still the largest, with some 30,000 attendees—SFJFF is an influential showcase bringing together filmmakers and audiences to celebrate Jewish cinema and explore its new frontiers. Check http://www.sfjff.org/ for full details

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In This Newsletter

Kid Stuff ..... page 3
What's So Cool About Tad Hill ..... page 3
Paperback Originals ..... page 7
New Hardcover Fiction ..... Page 2
Events & Book Clubs ..... Page 4 & 5
Book Club Suggestions ..... Back Page

Pull-Out Event Calendar Inside. Go to www.booksinc.net for the absolute latest event info.

Fiction

Bijou Roy
By Ronica Dhar
After her father dies, Bijou travels to India to scatter his remains in the river that runs through his native city. Never having fully understood why her parents severed their ties to India, she is drawn to Naveen, the son of her father's closest comrade. Quickly, she is embroiled in the mysteries of love, grief, and family histories, questioning what happens next when the customs of neither an original nor an adopted culture provide comfort. ON SALE NOW

Careers for Your Cat
By Ann Dziemianowicz
Does your pampered Persian princess have a talent for interior design? Does your dapper tabby harbor the soul of an opera diva? Cat career coach **ANN DZIEMIANOWICZ** helps our furry companions navigate the increasingly high-stakes feline job market and streamlines the kitty job-search process by giving cats the tools they need to identify skill sets and make sound employment decisions. ON SALE AUGUST 3TH

Strangers at the Feast
By Jennifer Vanderbes
Eleanor and Gavin worry about their daughter, a single academic, and about their son, who has been caught in the imploding real-estate bubble. In her gripping new book, **VANDERBES** masterfully lays bare the fraught lives of this complex cast of characters and the lengths to which they will go to protect their families. This is a heartbreaking portrait of a family struggling to find happiness and an exploration of the hidden costs of the American dream. ON SALE AUGUST 3RD

Moscow Sting
By Alex Dryden
When Finn, a former British spy, is poisoned by a Russian assassin, his ex-boss Adrian, the chief of MI6, wants information that only Finn's widow knows. But Anna, a former KGB colonel who betrayed her country for love, vanished with her child shortly after Finn's death. Anna holds the key to the secrets of her motherland, and now the former Russian agent faces her greatest test. ON SALE AUGUST 3RD

Dracula in Love
By Karen Essex
Award-winning **KAREN ESSEX** spins a haunting, erotic, and suspenseful story of eternal love and possession. From the shadowy banks of the river Thames to the wild and windswept Yorkshire coast, Dracula's eternal muse, Mina Murray, vividly recounts the intimate details of what really transpired between her and the Count – the joys and terrors of a passionate affair that has linked them through the centuries, and her rebellion against her own frightening preternatural powers. ON SALE AUGUST 10TH

Finders Keepers
By Craig Childs
Beyond what most people think about archaeology lies a vibrant and controversial realm of scientists, thieves, and contested land claims. In ***Trespass***, **CHILDS** explores the field's transgressions against the cultures it tries to preserve and asks: To whom does the past belong? Written in his trademark lyrical style, this riveting book carries readers directly into his adventures and discoveries, lifting the curtain on the ethical dilemmas and dark side of archaeology. ON SALE NOW

Rich Boy
By Sharon Pomerantz
Hailing from a working-class Jewish neighborhood in Philadelphia, Robert Vishniak has worked his way up in the world. But a chance encounter with a beautiful girl from the old neighborhood – and the forgotten life she awakens – threatens to unravel his carefully-constructed new identity. ON SALE NOW

The Doctor and the Diva
By Adrien McDonnell
MEET THE AUTHOR
It is 1903. When Dr. Ravell, a young Harvard-educated obstetrician, meets Erika, an opera singer whose beauty is surpassed only by her spellbinding voice, he knows their doctor-patient relationship will be like none he has ever had. This magnificent debut is a tale of passionate love affairs, dangerous decisions, and a woman forced to choose between conceiving and pursuing an opera singing career. ON SALE NOW

Garden of Betrayal
By Lee Vance
Mark Wallace is married to the love of his life and he has a high-powered Wall Street job. Then, one night his 12-year-old son, Kyle, vanishes off the streets of New York. Politically savvy, emotionally complex, and frighteningly believable, ***The Garden of Betrayal*** is a timely imagining of the casualties of recession-era Wall Street gaming and the backroom global oil wars, a riveting, compulsive read that will grip you from first page to last. ON SALE AUGUST 3RD

How to Be an American Housewife
By Margaret Dilloway
How to Be an American Housewife tells the story of Shoko, a Japanese woman who married an American GI, and her grown daughter, Sue, a divorced mother whose life as an American housewife hasn't been what she'd expected. When illness prevents Shoko from traveling to Japan, she asks Sue to go in her place. The trip reveals family secrets that change their lives in dramatic and unforeseen ways. ON SALE AUGUST 5TH

I Curse the River of Time
By Per Petterson
It is 1989. Communism is crumbling, and Arvid Jansen, 37, is facing his first divorce. At the same time, his mother is diagnosed with cancer. Over a few intense autumn days, we follow Arvid as he struggles to find a new footing in his life while all of the established patterns around him are changing at staggering speed. ***I Curse the River of Time*** is an honest, heartbreaking, humorous portrayal of a complicated mother-son relationship. ON SALE AUGUST 3RD

Insufferable Gaucho
By Roberto Bolano
The Insufferable Gaucho contains tales bent on haunting you. Unpredictable and daring, highly-controlled yet somehow haywire, a **BOLANO** story might concern an elusive plagiarist or an elderly lawyer giving up city life for an improbable return to the family estate, now gone to wrack and ruin. **BOLANO'S** stories have been applauded as "bleakly luminous and perfectly calibrated" (Publishers Weekly) and "complex and provocative" (International Herald Tribune). ON SALE NOW

Professor of Secrets
By William Eamon
In the tradition of ***Galileo's Daughter*** and ***Brunelleschi's Dome***, this exciting story illuminates the captivating world of the late Renaissance through the life of Leonardo Fioravanti, a brilliant, forward-thinking, and unconventional doctor. Meticulously-researched and engagingly written, this gripping narrative will appeal to those interested in Renaissance history, the development of science, and the historical thrillers so popular today. ON SALE NOW

Fogtown
By Andersen Gabrych
Aided by his long-suffering secretary and lover Loretta, Grissel's search for a runaway girl ends with him becoming a suspect in a string of gruesome murders. The case twists and turns through the Golden Gate's greasy underbelly: the beguiling arms of a Chinese smuggler, an unexpected reunion with the daughter he abandoned long ago, and the horrifying gender-bending truth about the runaway and the murders and all those missing organs. ON SALE AUGUST 10TH

Red Queen
By Philippa Gregory
Married to a man twice her age, quickly widowed, and a mother at only 14, Margaret sets her heart on putting her son on the throne of England, regardless of the cost to herself, to England, and even to the little boy. In a novel of conspiracy, passion, and coldhearted ambition, **PHILIPPA GREGORY** presents the story of a proud and determined woman who believes that she alone is destined to shape the course of history. ON SALE AUGUST 3RD

Rembrandt Affair
By Daniel Silva
It has been six months since Gabriel's showdown with Ivan Kharkov. Now, having severed his ties with the Office, Gabriel has retreated to the Cornish coast. But an unspeakable act of violence once again draws Gabriel into a world of danger when an art restorer is brutally murdered and the newly-discovered Rembrandt, on which he has been working, is stolen. ON SALE NOW

City of Veils
By Zoe Ferraris
When the body of a brutally-beaten woman is found on the beach in Jeddah, the city's detectives are ready to dismiss the case as another unsolvable murder. Only Katya is convinced that the victim can be identified and her killer found. She calls upon her friend Nayir for help, and soon discovers that the dead girl was a young filmmaker named Leila, whose controversial documentaries earned her many enemies. ON SALE NOW

Three Sisters
By Bi Feiyu
In a small village in China, the Wang family has produced seven sisters in its quest to have a boy; three of the sisters emerge as the lead characters in this remarkable novel. From their small village to the harried pace of city life, **BI FEIYU** follows the women as they strive to change the course of their destinies and battle against an "infinite ocean of people" in a China that does not truly belong to them. ON SALE NOW

Vanishing of Katharina Linden
By Helen Grant
It isn't 10-year-old Pia's fault that her grandmother dies in a freak accident. But tell that to the citizens of Pia's little German hometown of Bad Munstereifel, or to the classmates who shun her. But then something else captures the community's attention: the vanishing of Katharina Linden. Then another girl disappears, and Pia is plunged into a new and unnerving place, one far from fairy tales and perilously close to adulthood. ON SALE AUGUST 10TH

Villain
By Shuichi Yoshida
Yuichi, a young construction worker, is arrested by the Nagasaki police on suspicion of murder. What then unfolds are the events surrounding the murder, as Yuichi and his lover try to elude the police. Moving back and forth in time, the riveting narrative tells the stories of the victim, the murderer, and their families – stories that come together to give us a unique, visceral, and indelible sense of contemporary Japanese society. ON SALE AUGUST 3RD

Hot Time in the Old Town
By Edward Kohn
The 1896 New York heat wave killed almost 1,500 people in ten oppressively hot days. The heat coincided with a pitched presidential contest between McKinley and Bryan. Bryan's hopes for the presidency began to flag amidst the abhorrent heat while police commissioner Theodore Roosevelt handed out ice to the poor. ***Hot Time in the Old Town*** captures the birth of the progressive era and revives the forgotten disaster that almost destroyed a great American city. ON SALE NOW

Hot X: Algebra Exposed
By Danica McKellar
Sizzling with **DANICA'S** trademark sass and style, ***Hot X: Algebra Exposed*** tackles algebra, the most common roadblock to high school graduation. **MCKELLAR** instantly puts her readers at ease, revealing how to feel confident, get in the driver's seat, and master topics such as square roots, polynomials, quadratic equations, word problems, and more without breaking a sweat (or a nail). ON SALE AUGUST 3RD

In Utopia
By J.C. Hallman
In 2005, **J.C. HALLMAN** came across a scientific paper about Pleistocene Rewilding, an idea from conservation biology that suggested repopulating bereft ecosystems with endangered megafauna. Pleistocene Rewilding rekindled in him a fascination with utopian ideas, and he went on to spend three weeks at the world's oldest intentional community, train at the world's largest civilian combat-school, and tour a $30 billion megacity built from scratch on an artificial island off the coast of Korea. ON SALE AUGUST 3RD

Let's Take the Long Way Home
By Gail Caldwell
"It's an old, old story: I had a friend and we shared everything, and then she died and so we shared that, too." So begins this gorgeous memoir by Pulitzer Prize winner **GAIL CALDWELL**, a testament to the power of friendship, a story of how an extraordinary bond between two women can illuminate the loneliest, funniest, hardest moments in life, including the final and ultimate challenge. ON SALE AUGUST 10TH

Lives We Carry with Us
By Robert Coles
Lives We Carry with Us gathers together for the first time a diverse cross section of **COLES'S** profiles collected in book form. Depicting the famous, the lesser known, and the unknown, the profiles include portraits of James Agee, Dorothy Day, Erik Erikson, Dorothea Lange, Walker Percy, Bruce Springsteen, Simone Weil, and William Carlos Williams. **COLES** has chosen figures who shaped, challenged, and inspired one of the great moral voices of our era. ON SALE NOW

One Dog at a Time
By Pen Farthing
In the remote outpost of Now Zad, Afghanistan, **PEN FARTHING** and his troop of young Royal Marines survive frequent engagements with the Taliban and forge links with the local community. Appalled by the horrors of local dog fighting, **PEN** has no choice but to intervene. Soon, stray dogs are drawn into the sanctuary, and **PEN** begins hatching plans to help them escape to a better life. ON SALE AUGUST 3RD

Murder Room
By Michael Capuzzo
The Murder Room draws the reader into a chilling, darkly-humorous, awe-inspiring world as the three partners travel far from their Victorian dining room to hunt the ruthless killers of a millionaire's son, a serial killer who carves off faces, and a child killer enjoying 50 years of freedom and dark fantasy. Acclaimed bestselling author **MICHAEL CAPUZZO'S** brilliant storytelling brings true crime to life more realistically and vividly than it has ever been portrayed before. ON SALE AUGUST 10TH

Mustaine
By Dave Mustaine
A founding member of Metallica, **MUSTAINE** was officially fired from the band for his alcoholism and personal conflicts. But he went on to start the equally popular heavy metal band Megadeth. Here, ***Mustaine*** recounts the highs and lows of a life in hard rock. Photos throughout. ON SALE AUGUST 3RD

My Life as a Russian Novel
By Emmanuel Carrere
Set in Paris and Kotelnich, a small post-Soviet town, ***My Life as a Russian Novel*** traces **CARRERE'S** pursuit of two obsessions--the disappearance of his Russian grandfather and his erotic fascination with a woman he loves but cannot keep from destroying. In prose that is elegant and passionate, **CARRERE** weaves the strands of his story into a travelogue of a journey inward. ON SALE NOW

Proust's Overcoat
By Lorenza Foschini
In the tradition of ***The Professor and the Madman*** comes the charming, intriguing story of one man's obsessive search for the personal effects of legendary author Marcel Proust. ON SALE AUGUST 3RD

Smart Swarm
By Peter Miller
What can ants, bees, fish, and smart swarms teach us about communication, organization, and decision-making? A fascinating new take on the concept of collective intelligence and its colorful manifestations in some of our most complex problems, ***The Smart Swarm*** explains how understanding flocks, schools, and colonies can make us better at communicating, decision making, and getting things done. ON SALE AUGUST 5TH

Superconnect
By Richard Koch
Personal and professional networks shape everything we do, but simply knowing that they exist won't help you harness your connections for maximum success. With an eye toward business applications, ***Superconnect*** outlines the new rules of our densely linked society. At the core of the analysis are three simple network components – strong relationships, weak relationships, and hubs – that interact in surprising, counterintuitive ways. ON SALE NOW

UFO's
By Leslie Kean
KEAN, a veteran journalist, presents a thorough investigation into the existence of, and government reactions to, UFO's. This book asks the fascinating question: Is there intelligent life elsewhere in the universe? ON SALE NOW

TRADE PAPER ORIGINALS

Baked
By Mark Haskell Smith
Miro Basinas is an experimental botanist who sells his rarefied product to a discerning clientele. Only Miro's not growing heirloom tomatoes or making organic wine – he's growing weed. And when Miro hits the big time by winning Amsterdam's famed Cannabis Cup, cannasseurs and ganjaficionados aren't the only people who want a piece of him. A wickedly funny crime novel, ***Baked*** opens with a bang as Miro is cut down by a bullet. ON SALE NOW

Dead in the Dregs
By Peter Lewis
Prominent wine critic Richard Wilson makes a living elevating and destroying winemakers' reputations with the stroke of his pen. When he disappears after a tasting at Napa Valley's Norton Winery, his sister Janie looks to her ex-husband Babe Stern for help. But when Wilson's body is found floating in a vat at Norton, Stern's search turns into a hunt for the killer. ON SALE AUGUST 10TH

Stretch
By Neal Pollack
From **NEAL POLLACK**, acclaimed author of ***Alternadad*** and ***The Neal Pollack Anthology of American Literature***, comes ***Stretch: The Unlikely Making of a Yoga Dude***. Here is the hilarious but true account of an overweight, balding, skeptical guy who undergoes a miraculous transformation into a healthy, blissful, obsessively dedicated yoga fiend. ON SALE AUGUST 10TH

Unexpected Son
By Shobhan Bantwal
In this poignant and powerful novel, the author of ***The Dowry Bride*** explores the culture clash experienced by a woman caught between her modern American life and her ties to the son she unwittingly left behind in India. ON SALE NOW

Unexpectedly Milo
By Matthew Dicks
Milo Slade doesn't know the root of his marital problems, but he faults his need to open a jar of Smuckers grape jelly or sing 99 Luftballons in front of an audience. Then he stumbles across a video camera and tapes in a park. The first tape features a young woman who blames herself for a tragic death of a friend. Milo is struck by the urge to free the sweet confessor from her guilt. ON SALE AUGUST 3RD

Why Our Decisions Don't Matter
By Simon Van Booy
This book explores how some of the greatest minds of civilization have tackled a question that continues to play a vital part in our lives today. In ***Why Our Decisions Don't Matter***, **SIMON VAN BOOY** curates an enlightening collection of excerpts, passages, and paintings, presenting works by Homer, Sophocles, Horace, Shakespeare, Rembrandt, Voltaire, Blake, Dickinson, Twain, Rilke, Camus, Kerouac, Sartre, Borges, Beckett, and others. ON SALE AUGUST 10TH

Non

COMING IN PAPERBACK

Bright-Sided
By Barbara Ehrenreich

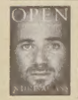
In ***Bright-sided***, **BARBARA EHRENREICH** reveals how the positive thinking movement led officials to overlook clues of 9/11, overestimate the strength of New Orleans' levees, and enable the business world to make egregiously unsafe loans that caused the worst financial crisis since World War II. **EHRENREICH** exposes the consequences of the belief that positive thinking is the key to achieving success and prosperity. **ON SALE AUGUST 3RD**

Children's Book
By A.S. Byatt

When children's book author Olive Wellwood's oldest son discovers a runaway named Philip sketching in the basement of a museum, she takes him into the storybook world of her family and friends. But the joyful bacchanals that Olive hosts at her rambling country house – and the separate, private books she writes for each of her seven children – conceal more treachery and darkness than Philip has ever imagined. **ON SALE AUGUST 10TH**

Inherent Vice
By Thomas Pynchon

It's been a while since Doc Sportello has seen his ex-girlfriend. Suddenly she shows up with a story about a plot to kidnap a billionaire land developer whom she just happens to love. It's the tail end of the psychedelic sixties in L.A., and Doc knows that love is another of those words going around at the moment, like trip or groovy, except that this one usually leads to trouble. **ON SALE NOW**

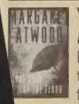


Open
By Andre Agassi

Groomed to be a tennis champion by his moody and demanding father, **AGASSI** had won the first of his eight grand slams and achieved wealth, celebrity, and the game's highest honors. But off the court, he was unfulfilled by his great achievements in a sport he had come to resent. **AGASSI** writes candidly about his marriage to Brooke Shields, his growing interest in philanthropy, and the highs and lows of his celebrated career. **ON SALE AUGUST 10TH**

War Dances
By Sherman Alexie

In his first new fiction since winning the National Book Award for ***The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian***, best-selling author **SHERMAN ALEXIE** delivers a virtuoso collection of tender, witty, and soulful stories that expertly capture modern relationships from the most diverse angles. ***War Dances*** brims with **ALEXIE'S** poetic and revolutionary prose, and reminds why he ranks as one of our country's finest writers. **ON SALE NOW**



Year of the Flood
By Margaret Atwood

In this second book of the MaddAddam trilogy, the long-feared waterless flood has occurred, altering Earth and obliterating most human life. Among the survivors are Ren, a young trapeze dancer locked inside a high-end sex club, and Toby, who is barricaded inside a luxurious spa. Amid shadowy, corrupt ...ng powers and new life forms, Ren and Toby ... have to decide on their next move, but they ...t stay locked away. **ON SALE NOW**

1877
By Michael Bellesiles

A decade after the Civil War, not only was the U.S. gripped by a deep depression, but the country was also in the throes of nearly-unimaginable violence and upheaval marking the end of the brief period known as Reconstruction and a return to white rule across the South. In ***1877***, celebrated historian **MICHAEL BELLESILES** reveals that the fires of that fated year also fueled a hothouse of cultural and intellectual innovation. **ON SALE NOW**

Angel Island
By Erika Lee

From 1910 to 1940, the Angel Island immigration station in San Francisco served as the processing and detention center for over one million people from around the world. The majority of newcomers came from China and Japan, but there were also immigrants from India, the Philippines, Korea, Russia, Mexico, and over 70 other countries. The full history of these immigrants is told for the first time in this landmark book. **ON SALE NOW**

Angelina
By Andrew Morton

ANDREW MORTON takes us deep inside Angelina Jolie's world to show us what shaped her as a child, as an actress, and as a woman struggling to overcome personal demons. He draws upon far-reaching original interviews and research, accompanied by exclusive private photographs, to show us the true story behind both the wild excesses of Angelina Jolie's youth and her remarkable work with children and victims of poverty and disaster today. **ON SALE AUGUST 3RD**

Bury My Heart at Conference Room B
By Stan Slap

Bury My Heart at Conference Room B is the highest-rated management development solution at a number of the world's highest-rated companies – companies that don't include patience on their list of corporate values. It has been exhaustively researched and bench tested with tens of thousands of real managers in more than 70 countries. You'll hear directly from managers about how this legendary method has transformed their careers and their lives. **ON SALE AUGUST 12TH**

Charlie Chan
By Yunte Huant

Charlie Chan promises to be a landmark work in 20th-century American racial history. Chronicling the fraught narrative of one of Hollywood's most enduring cinematic detectives, English scholar **YUNTE HUANG** uncovers the untold story of the real Charlie Chan, a bullwhip-wielding, five-foot Chinese-American detective whose raids on opium dens and gambling parlors transformed him into a Hawaiian legend. **ON SALE NOW**

Composed
By Rosanne Cash

The child of country legend Johnny Cash, **ROSANNE CASH** shares memories of a hilarious stint working for Columbia Records in London, recording her own first album on a German label, working her way to success, motherhood, dealing with the deaths of her parents, the process of songwriting, and the fulfillment she has found with her current husband and musical collaborator, John Leventhal. **ON SALE AUGUST 10TH**

Churchill's Empire
By Richard Toye

A charmer and a bully, Winston Churchill was driven by a belief that the English were a superior race, whose goals went beyond individual interests to offer an enduring good to the entire world. But Churchill also frequently inveighed against human rights, nationalism, and constitutional progress. Drawing on newly-released documents, **RICHARD TOYE** provides the first comprehensive analysis of Churchill's relationship with the empire. **ON SALE AUGUST 3RD**

Churchill's Secret War
By Madhusree Mukerjee

MUKERJEE weaves a riveting narrative of Churchill's decisions to ratchet up the demands on India as war unfolded and to ignore the corpses piling up in the Bengali countryside. The hypocrisy and racism of two centuries of British colonial rule finally built to a head, leading Indians to win their independence in 1947, accompanied by a brutal partition into India and Pakistan. **MUKERJEE** shows us a side of World War II unknown to many Americans. **ON SALE NOW**

Fall of the House of Walworth
By Geoffrey O'Brien

Eighteen-year-old Frank Walworth descends the staircase and approaches the hotel clerk. He calmly inquires the location of the nearest police precinct and adds, "I have killed my father in my room, and I am going to surrender myself to the police." So begins the fall of the Walworths, a Saratoga family that rose to prominence as part of the splendor of New York's aristocracy. **ON SALE NOW**

Girls of Murder City
By Douglas Perry

In the tradition of Erik Larson's ***The Devil in the White City***, **DOUGLAS PERRY** vividly captures Jazz Age Chicago and the sensationalized circus atmosphere that gave rise to the concept of the celebrity criminal. Fueled by rich period detail and enlivened by a cast of characters who seemed destined for the stage, ***The Girls of Murder City*** is a crackling social history that simultaneously presents the freewheeling spirit of the age and its sober repercussions. **ON SALE AUGUST 5TH**

Growing Up Jung
By Micah Toub

Using excerpts from Carl Jung's own memoir, and readings and conversations with Jungian gurus and unbelievers, ***Growing Up Jung*** intelligently examines the pros and cons of Jungian philosophy as we witness **TOUB** embrace his shadow in that elusive quest for individuation. While tackling themes like the anima, the Oedipus complex, and transference, this book addresses the question: Is it possible for the spawn of two shrinks to reach adulthood mentally unscathed? **ON SALE NOW**

Let Our Fame Be Great
By Oliver Bullough

In ***Let Our Fame Be Great***, journalist and Russian expert **OLIVER BULLOUGH** explores the fascinating cultural crossroads of the Caucasus, where Europe, Asia, and the Middle East intersect. Traveling through its history, **BULLOUGH** tracks down the nations dispersed by the region's last 200 years of brutal warfare. This book recounts the tenacious survival of peoples who have been relentlessly invaded and persecuted and yet woefully overlooked. **ON SALE NOW**

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BOOKS, INC. FEATURES SAN FRANCISCO AUTHORS

Saturday, July 31 —> 11:00 AM

A special **PICTURE BOOK PALS STORY TIME** with special guest **MINA JAVAHERBIN** author of ***GOAL***, the story of a dusty township in South Africa, where Ajani and his friends have earned a brand-new, federation-size soccer ball.

Books Inc. in Palo Alto

Thursday, August 5 —> 4:00 PM

TEA TIME FOR TOTS STORY TIME will team with the Berkeley East Bay Humane Society to feature former Disney animator and Berkley resident **SUSAN GAL**, author of ***PLEASE TAKE ME FOR A WALK***, the story of a very persuasive pup that pleads with his best friend to take him for a walk. *15% of sales will be given to BEBHS*

Books Inc. in Berkeley

Saturday, August 14 —> 11:00 AM

PICTURE BOOK PALS STORY TIME features San Francisco author **MARK ELKIN**, children's book author of ***SAMUEL'S BABY***, an adorable and funny story about a kindergarten class with baby fever.

Books Inc. in Palo Alto

Saturday, August 14 —> 4:00 PM

Join us for the Launch Party celebrating the release of local author **BRANDI DOUGHERTY'S** fun new book for tween readers. ***MISS FORTUNE*** is about a couple of BFFs who get more than they bargained for when they get a cursed necklace from a creepy fortune-teller. Yikes!

Books Inc. Opera Plaza

Saturday, August 19 —> 4:00 PM

TEA TIME FOR TOTS features San Francisco author **MARK ELKIN**, children's book author of ***SAMUEL'S BABY***, an adorable and funny story about a kindergarten class with baby fever.

Books Inc. in Berkeley

AUGUST KIDS REVIEWS

Dog Loves Books
By Louise Yates

Dog loves books SO much he opens his very own bookstore. At first he's short of customers. But that's all right, because when Dog is surrounded by books, he is never short of friends or fun. And when customers begin arriving, he knows just which books to recommend. **LOUISE YATES'S** expressive little white dog extends an irresistible invitation to the very youngest to try reading. **ON SALE NOW**

Interrupting Chicken
By David Ezra Stein

It's time for the little red chicken's bedtime story and a reminder from Papa to try not to interrupt. But whether the tale is ***Hansel and Gretel*** or ***Little Red Riding Hood***, she jumps into the story to save its hapless characters from doing some dangerous or silly thing. Now it's the little red chicken's turn to tell a story, but will her yawning papa make it to the end without his own kind of interrupting? **ON SALE AUGUST 16TH**

Touch Blue
By Cynthia Lord

The state of Maine plans to shut down her island's schoolhouse, which would force Tess's family to move to the mainland – and Tess to leave the only home she has ever known. Fortunately, the islanders have a plan too: increase the numbers of students by having several families take in foster children. So now Tess and her family are taking a chance on Aaron, a 13-year-old trumpet player who has been bounced from home to home. **ON SALE NOW**

Fool's Girl
By Celia Rees

Young and beautiful Violetta may be of royal blood, but her kingdom is in shambles when she arrives in London on a mysterious mission. It is not until she meets the playwright William Shakespeare that she gets to tell the entire story from beginning to end. Violetta and her comic companion, Feste, have come in search of an ancient holy relic that the evil Malvolio has stolen from their kingdom. But where will their remarkable quest lead? **ON SALE NOW**

Poison Diaries
By Maryrose Wood

Jessamine Luxton has lived all of her 16 years in an isolated cottage near Alnwick Castle, with little company apart from the plants in her garden. Her father, Thomas, a feared and respected apothecary, has taught her much about the incredible powers of plants. When Jessamine begins to fall in love with a mysterious boy who claims to communicate with plants, she is drawn into the dangerous world of the poison garden. **ON SALE AUGUST 3RD**

Extraordinary Secrets of April, May
By Robin Benway

Three sisters share a magical, unshakeable bond in this witty high-concept novel from the critically acclaimed author of ***Audrey, Wait!*** Around the time of their parents' divorce, sisters April, May, and June recover special powers that come in handy navigating the hell that is high school. Powers that help them cope with the hardest year of their lives. But could they have a greater purpose? **ON SALE NOW**

Eternal Ones
By Kristen Miller

Haven Moore designs beautiful dresses for her classmates with her best friend Beau. Dressmaking keeps her sane, since she lives with her widowed and heartbroken mother in her tyrannical grandmother's house in Snope City, a tiny town in Tennessee. Then an impossible group of coincidences conspire to force her to flee to New York, to discover who she is, and who she was. **ON SALE AUGUST 10TH**

No and Me
By Delphine de Vigan

Parisian teenager Lou has an IQ of 160, OCD tendencies, and a mother who has suffered from depression for years. While doing research, Lou meets No, a teenage girl living on the streets. As their friendship grows, Lou bravely asks her parents if No can live with them, and is astonished when they agree. No's presence forces Lou's family to come to terms with a secret tragedy. **ON SALE AUGUST 3RD**

What's so COOL about...

TAD HILLS?

TAD grew up surrounded by nature. Raccoons, snakes, owls, and turtles were common guests in his house. His grandmother was an artist and encouraged the young Tad to draw fearlessly and look at the world from different angles. He always loved building and making outrageous things with his family... and he still loves to do that today, with his own children.

HOW ROCKET LEARNED TO READ: An adorable dog named Rocket and his teacher, a little yellow bird, are perfect pals for back-to-school! Follow along as Rocket masters the alphabet, sounds out words, and finally . . . learns to read all on his own. Simple and affectionate and sure to become a classic.

DUCK AND GOOSE ADVENTURES: Duck and Goose are a real "odd couple" whose friendship is tested through many small adventures and misadventures. Preschoolers love these gentle and warm stories... and so do grownups.

Read the new Books Inc. for Kid's blog at http://www.booksinc.net/blog/books-inc-kids

EVENTS CALENDAR

AUGUST 2010

SATURDAY 31

11:00 AM • **PICTURE BOOK PALS** features special guest **JAVAHERBIN**, author of ***Goal!***, in which a boy and his friends must fend off a group of bullies that tries to steal their ball.
Books Inc. in Palo Alto

MONDAY 2

7:30 PM • The **NIGHT OF THE LIVING BOOK CLUB** will discusses ***Ghost Story*** by **PETER STRAUB**.
Books Inc. in Mountain View

TUESDAY 3

7:00 PM • The **FIRST FICTION BOOK CLUB** will discusses ***Tinkers*** by **PAUL HARDING**.
Books Inc. in Laurel Village

WEDNESDAY 4

7:00 PM • **DR. ERIC SHAPIRA** presents ***New Wrinkle***, which helps people cope with old age by learning about themselves through other people's examples.
Books Inc. in Mountain View

7:30 PM • **HOWARD BRYANT** discusses ***Last Hero***, which reveals how Hank Aaron stood against racism with dignity and determination, helping transform the role and significance of the professional black athlete.
Books Inc. in Alameda

THURSDAY 5

4:00 PM • **STORYTIME IN BERKELEY** will team with the Berkeley East Bay Humane Society (BEBHS) to feature former Disney animator and Berkley resident **SUSAN GAL**, author of ***Please Take Me for a Walk***, the story of a very persuasive pup that pleads with his best friend (the reader) to take him for a walk. 15% of sales will be given to BEBHS.
Books Inc. in Berkeley

7:00 PM • Award-winning **GARY SHTEYNGART** presents ***Super Sad True Love Story***, a deliciously-dark tale of America's dysfunctional coming years.
Books Inc. in Berkeley

7:30 PM • **DANIEL MANN** presents ***Dream of the Snake God***, in which Cory Davis arrives in Fiji for scuba diving, becomes infatuated with the handsome David Kingsley, and endures a nightmarish holiday.
Books Inc. in The Castro

FRIDAY 6

7:30 PM • **ADRIENNE MCDONNELL** presents ***Doctor and the Diva***, a breathtaking novel of romantic obsession, longing, and one woman's choice between motherhood and her operatic calling.
Books Inc. in The Marina

SATURDAY 7

9:30 AM • The **FIRST SATURDAY BOOK CLUB** will discuss ***The Black Minutes*** by **MARTIN SOLARES**.
Books Inc. in Berkeley

3:00 PM • **BLISS** and **SINCLAIR REED** discuss ***This Summer I Plan to Rule the World***, a charming reminder of what children can achieve if they try.
Books Inc. in The Marina

SUNDAY 8

6:00 PM • **ROBERT FISCHER** visits Books Inc. to discuss his sky-high thriller ***Plane Jane***, which follows a daring Learjet repo girl into international intrigue she never bargained for.
Books Inc. in Berkeley

MONDAY 9

7:00 PM • **ADAM ELENBAAS** talks about ***Fishers of Men***, which chronicles his journey from intense self-destruction and crippling depression to self-acceptance, inner awareness, and spiritual understanding through participation in ayahuasca ceremonies in South America and beyond.
Books Inc. in Berkeley

7:00 PM • The **DOWN TO A SCIENCE BOOK CLUB** will discuss ***Microcosm: E. Coli and the New Science of Life*** by **CARL ZIMMER**.
Books Inc. in Opera Plaza

7:30 PM • **DOUG DORST** discusses ***Surf Guru***, a book of brilliant, adventurous stories from the award-winning author of ***Alive in Necropolis***.
Books Inc. in Marina

TUESDAY 10

6:00 PM • Asian America Now presents **SHAWNA YANG RYAN**, author of Water Ghosts. $5 Asia Society/Co-sponsor Members$10 Non-members
Chinese Historical Society, 965 Clay Street, SF

6:00 PM • The **BOOK BUSTERS MIDDLE READER BOOK CLUB** (ages 9-12) will discuss ***Molly Moon's Incredible Book of Hypnotism***, by **GEORGIA BYNG**.
Books Inc. in Palo Alto

WEDNESDAY 11

7:00 PM • **HENRY LEE** presents ***Presumed Dead***, a true-life murder mystery revolving around an East Bay computer genius and his missing Russian bride.
Books Inc. in Berkeley

7:00 PM • The **SFLGBT BOOK CLUB** will discus ***Lois Lenz, Lesbian Secretary*** by **MONICA NOLAN**.
Books Inc. in The Castro

THURSDAY 12

12:00 PM • The **WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL (WAC)** presents **ANDREW BACEVICH** author of ***Washington Rules: America's Path to Permanent War***.
Books Inc. in WAC

7:30 PM • **DAVID JEDEIKIN** talks about ***Wander the Rainbow: Holistic Ideas Incorporated***.
Books Inc. in The Castro

SATURDAY 14

10:00 AM • The **SECOND SATURDAY BOOK CLUB** will discuss ***Memoirs of Hadrian*** by **MARGUERITE YOURCENAR**.
Books Inc. in Opera Plaza

11:00 AM • **PICTURE BOOK PALS** features San Francisco author **MARK ELKIN**, children's book author of ***Samuel's Baby***, an adorable and funny story about a kindergarten class with baby fever.
Books Inc. in Palo Alto

4:00 PM • Join the party as we celebrate the release of local author **BRANDI DOUGHERTY'S** fun new book for tween readers. ***Miss Fortune*** is about a couple of BFFs who get more than they bargained for when they get a cursed necklace from a creepy fortune-teller. Yikes!
Books Inc. in Opera Plaza

7:00 PM • Award-winning **CARL HIAASEN** talks about ***Star Island***, a hilarious spin on life in the celebrity fast lane.
Books Inc. in The Marina

SUNDAY 15

11:00 AM • The **WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL BOOK CLUB** will discuss ***The 19th Wife*** by **DAVID EBERSHOFF**.
Books Inc. in Opera Plaza

TUESDAY 17

7:00 PM • The **FOREIGN INTRIGUE BOOK CLUB** will discuss ***Death of a Red Heroine*** by **QIU XIAOLONG**.
Books Inc. in Laurel Village

7:30 PM • The **SAN FRANCISCO TRAVEL CLUB AND LECTURE SERIES** presents **GREG SULLIVAN** of ***Afar Magazine***.
Books Inc. in The Marina

THURSDAY 19

4:00 PM • **STORYTIME IN BERKELEY** features San Francisco author **MARK ELKIN**, children's book author of ***Samuel's Baby***, an adorable and funny story about a kindergarten class with baby fever.
Books Inc. in Berkeley

7:00 PM • The **SUZANNE CARREIRO** discusses ***The Dog Who Ate the Truffle***, which includes colorful stories and authentic classic recipes for an intimate and illustrious travel cookbook.
Books Inc. in Palo Alto

SATURDAY 21

3:00 PM • The **YOUNG@HEART BOOK CLUB** will discuss ***Catching Fire*** by **SUZANNE COLLINS**.
Books Inc. in Opera Plaza

MONDAY 23

7:00 PM • Launch Party! **JANE PORTER** presents ***She's Gone Country***, in which an ex-model realizes that in order to reinvent herself, she must let go of an uncertain future and a broken past to find happiness and maybe even love.
Books Inc. in Palo Alto

TUESDAY 24

7:00 PM • Local author **ROB ELIAS** talks about ***Empire Strikes Out***, which demonstrates vividly the social relevance and enduring cultural vitality of science fiction.
Books Inc. in Laurel Village

7:00 PM • The **FOURTH TUESDAY (MARGIE'S) BOOK CLUB** will discuss ***To Kill a Mockingbird*** by **HARPER LEE** along side ***Mockingbird: A Portrait of Harper Lee*** by **CHARLES J. SHIELDS**.
Books Inc. in Palo Alto

WEDNESDAY 25

12:30 PM • The **NOONER BOOK CLUB** will discuss ***Walks with Men*** by **ANN BEATTIE**.
Books Inc. in Berkeley

6:30 PM • The **OTHER REALMS FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION BOOK CLUB** will discuss ***Julian Comstock: A Story of 22nd Century America*** by **ROBERT CHARLES WILSON**.
Books Inc. in Burlingame

7:00 PM • The **DESERT ISLAND BOOK CLUB** will discuss ***One Day*** by **DAVID NICHOLLS**.
Books Inc. in Alameda

7:30 PM • **CLASSICS I FORGOT TO READ** will discuss ***Middlemarch*** by **GEORGE ELIOT**.
Books Inc. in The Marina

THURSDAY 26

7:00 PM • The **HEALTHY LIVES BOOK CLUB** will discuss ***Happiness: Essential Mindfulness Practices*** by **THICH NHAT HANH**.
Books Inc. in Burlingame

7:30 PM • **NICK BURNS** shares ***The Bearded Gentleman***, a fun, informative guide to fifty-plus facial hairstyles for men.
Books Inc. in The Castro

MONDAY 30

7:00 PM • The **HANDS ON BAY AREA BOOK CLUB** will discuss ***The House on Dream Street: Memoir of an American Woman in Vietnam*** by **DANA SACHS**.
Books Inc. in Mountain View

TUESDAY 31

7:30 PM • **MR. BOOKCLUB** will discuss ***The Selected Works of T.S. Spivet*** by **REIF LARSEN**.
Books Inc. in Mountain View

STORE LOCATIONS

FOR THE ABSOLUTE LATEST INFO ON EVENTS AT BOOKS INC. PLEASE VISIT www.booksinc.n

Laurel Village 3515 California Street, San Francisco, CA 94118 • (415) 221-3666
Market Street 2275 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94114 • (415) 864-6777
Marina 2251 Chestnut Street, San Francisco, CA 94123 • (415) 931-3633
Opera Plaza 601 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco, CA 94102 • (415) 776-1111
Books/Bzinc San Francisco Int'l Airport, San Francisco, CA 94128 • (650) 244-0616
Avenue, Burlingame, CA 94010 • (650) 685-4911

Berkeley 1760 Fourth Street, Berkeley, CA 94710 • (510) 525-7777
Palo Alto Town & Country Village 855 El Camino Real #74, Palo Alto,CA 94301 • (650) 321-06
Mountain View 301 Castro Street, Mountain View, CA 94041 • (650) 428-1234
Alameda 1344 Park Street, Alameda, CA 94501 • (510) 522-2226
Compass Books & Cafe 1565 S. Disneyland Dr. #102, Anaheim, CA 92802 • (714) 502-9